



Chaos

Est. 1997

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sports..... 18

people..... 65

organizations..... 81
and activities

closing..... 122

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Body

Knows

Chaos

Est. 1997

Rensselaer Central
High School
1204 East Grace Street
Rensselaer, Indiana

Volume #81

Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got. Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot. Wouldn't you like to get away? Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came. You want to go where people know their troubles are all the same. You want to go where everybody knows your name.



"Where Everybody Knows Your Name"

"And you're always glad you came." Well, maybe you're not always glad you came to Rensselaer Central, but, despite the boredom, the monotony, and the endless hours of private reading, it's home. Rensselaer is a place where everybody knows your name. It's a school where you find familiar faces around every corner and friendly smiles down every hallway.



Seniors 1997

"Wouldn't You Like to Get Away?"

The Class of 1997 consists of a very diverse group of young, shall we say, adults. Much of the discussion that goes on throughout this class has hit a different level. They've stopped talking about others futures and are now starting to pry open a look at their own futures and take a peek into life.

The seniors started their track to graduation in August. Many wished the long summer days were not at a end. However, the trees rustled and leaves began to fall as they started their own daily routines of high school for the last time - at least they hoped it would be the finale. By the time they became seniors each one of them had different priorities, freedoms, and reveries.

They engaged in new classes, new and old friends, but the hallways were still the streets and alleys that were stumbled upon just four years ago. Although many of the seniors are excited to take on the the new adventures of being out on their own, you might hear a few of them say this, "Aren't you always glad you came?"



Senior, Stacie Brannner questions Josh Sayers' bill on euthanasia during mock congress 1997, as George Shanley and Anne McKim prepare themselves for more discussion.

Maria Acevedo
Megan Alson
Brian Arnett
Megan Bailey



Cynthia Balvich
Jeremy Banister
Joshua Barden
Adam Barten



Tara Baunach
Joshua Beaver
Eileen Blasky
Rodney Boring





Ray Bowler
Susan Branstetter
Aaron Brewer
Jason Brouwer



Joshua Brown
Tim Brown
Erin Cain
Heather Charness



Craig Clouse
Tiffany Conley
Chad Cooper
Tiffany Copley



Wayne Cover
Bruce Culbreth
Amber Daniels
Bert Daniels

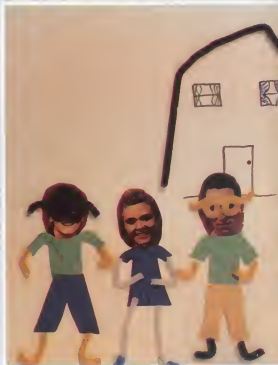


David DelPrincipe
Jenny Dill
Shannon English
Colin Eshleman

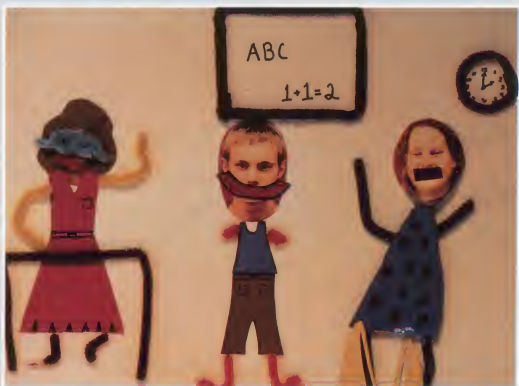


Machel Floyd
Amy Gastineau
Tiffany Giramonti
Stephanie Gish

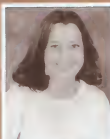
Hall of Fame



Clockwise from top left corner: Most Likely to Succeed: Erin McIlwain and Christopher Louck, Teachers Pet: Matt Putman and Nikki Virok, Biggest Rebel: Amber Daniels and Josh Williams, Most Talkative: Josh Beaver and Lisa Scherb, Best Eyes: Matt Zacek, Megan Bailey, and Rita Hurley, Best Hair: Megan Bailey, Bas Gutwein, and Erin Cain.



Jeff Goad
Audrey Gorney
Eric Gross
Bas Gutwein



Jenny Hammond
Brad Hanewich
Derek Harden
J R. Harrington



Shallina Henson
Tony Hermanson
Betty Hofferth
Nichole Honn



Ted Hoover
Billie Huff
Rita Hurley
Jimmy Igoe

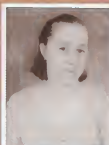


Adam Johns
Rena Johnson
Beth Jordan
Brandy Kizer

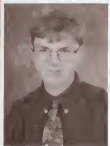


Kelly Kleinkort
Lori Kolhagen
Christina Lane
Don Langley





John Lowmery
Ryan LeMaster
Tracy Lewis
Stacey Long



Christopher Louck
Jeremy Love
Sheri Luzzader
Katina Marlin



Jesse Marcano
Nick Martin
Matt McClellan
Erin McIlwain



Anne McKim
Jennifer Mercer
Kristel Miller
Matt Mitchell



Christopher Moorhouse
Dawn Morrison
Heather Ney
Jennifer Nystrom

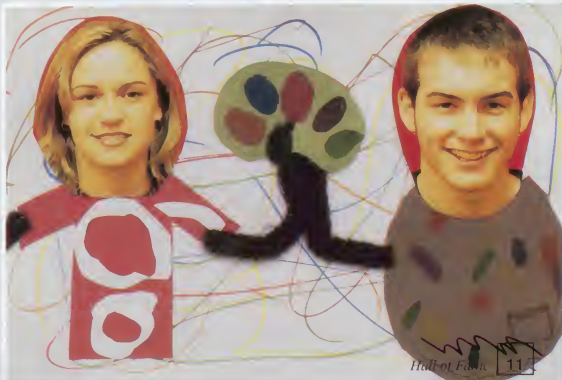


Aaron Parrish
Stephanie Pellegrino
Eric Phegley
Jeff Ploughe

Hall of Fame

Clockwise from top left corner: Most Musical – Stacie Brantner and Christopher Louck, Best Smile– Audrey Gorney and Brian Arnett, Biggest Flirt – Tim Brown and Stephanie Sellers, Most Athletic – Tonya Tiede and Adam Johns, Best Actor – Tiffany Copley and Christopher Louck, Most Artistic – Nic Poppen and Chasity Sizemore, Most Likeable – Dave DelPrincipe, Rita Hurley, and Nic Martin, Class Clown – Natali Watts and Dion Woudema.





Nic Poppen
Matt Putman
Michelle Ringen
Brandon Roberts



Christopher Robinson
Loq Sagnier
Melissa Saulmon
Josh Sayers



Julie Sayers
Lisa Scherb
Daniele Schneidt
Brandon Schreeg



Heather Selby
Vanessa Selby
Stephanie Sellers
George Shanley



Brad Shide
Holly Sinar
Mark Sipkema
Matt Sipkema



Mike Sitz
Chasity Sizemore
Ben Standish
Chris Stone





Sarah Toulman
Scott Taylor
Mike Treble
Kristy Trade



Tonya Todd
Tonya Todd
Tiffany Turner
Aaron Ulm



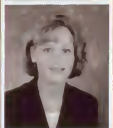
Keith Van Wienen
Nikki Virok
Ryan Waketield
Tim Warran



Natali Watts
Lana Whitecotten
Kathy Wienrank
Josh Williams



Scott Williams
Theresa Williams
Jeremy Wilmington
Jeremy Wood



Dion Woudema
Tanya Wright
Tina Wright
Matt Zacek

RAIN OR SHINE, IT'S HOMECOMING TIME

Once again Homecoming activities were rained out; at least the floats made it through the parade before they were destroyed by the vehement and violent wrath of Mother Nature. This year, like every other year, the senior boys selected ten candidates, and out of those ten they narrowed the selection down to five. Those remaining on the homecoming ballot and their escorts of choice were Cindy Balvich and Brandon Roberts, Tara Baunach and Matt Zacek, Holly Sinar and Nic Poppin, Tonya Tiede and Nick Martin, and Tanya Wright and Chad Cooper. The 1996-97 Homecoming Queen was Tanya Kay Wright (pictured to the right.)

At the annual football game, the Bombers defeated Lake Station with a score of 14-10. After the game a dance was held in the lecture hall, and it was a CHEERful time.

What line do you use to pick up a homecoming queen?

If I were to re-write the alphabet, U and I would be together.

Are your feet tired, because you've been running through my mind all day.

Is your daddy a thief because he stole the stars from the sky and put them in your eyes.



Cindy Balvich



Holly Sinar



Tonya Tiede

Tara Baunach





Ron Rivera offers encouraging words to the Bomber assemblage.

A variety of RCHS homecoming revelers enjoy the dance.



BOMBER SPIRIT inside

Kim Rodtbaugh and Marie Nagel did a good job pepping up the crowd!
Band members look good in the parade.



Candidates and escorts: Tanya Wright - Chad Cooper, Tonya Tiede - Nick Martin, Holly Sinar - Nic Poppen, Tara Baunach - Matt Zacek, and Cindy Balvich - Brandon Roberts.



Senior Leftovers



W. JOHNSTON & CO., Manufacturers,
Amherstburg, Ont. Detroit, Mich.



Pears' SOAP



The best for the face
& most economical in use



SOAPMAKERS BY SEALED APPOINTMENT
To H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES.

PEARS' SOAP is for sale throughout the United States and in all parts of the world,
and its praises are heard and echoed everywhere.

Oct. '86.

Sports

Sports

17

Lady Golfers Putt For Success

Shew, a great season with a not such a great end. Coach Stefanich said, "The team had unbelievable success." With the same team as the previous year, the ladies improved their record from 3-11 in 1995 to 7-6 in 1996.

Star Swan putts before an important match.



The Lady Bombers showed tremendous improvement, scoring the heck out of some really good teams.

During match play the ladies even shot in the 190 and 180's, a great improvement from their 200+ strokes in 1995 match play.

The future lady golfers should be making greater strides toward improvement. The team numbered 13 in 1996, having the highest number of girls in the last 4 years. With 6 freshmen, most playing golf for the first time, the overall team record improved as they were expected to come on strong in the next couple of years. Coach Stefanich commented, "It will take them about two years before they can make an immediate contribution. On the basis of competition scores this year, Jahna Marlatt and Shannon Daniels showed improvement."

Although, the ladies' season did not end the way they wished it to, it was still a great success.

RCHS	200	K.V.	228
		Lowell	242
	200	C. Cath.	181
		Culver	92
	221	Harrison	190
		T. Lake	183
	191	S. Newt.	199
	200	Knox	276
	185	Benton	207
		C.	
		West C.	232
	190	Harrison	179
		Lowell	219
	212	Lake C.	180
Invitationals		place	teams
RCHS		5th	16
K.V.		6th	16
Twin Lakes		8th	14
McCutcheon		10th	13
LaPorte		9th	18
Laf. Jeff			
Sectional		5th	9

The 1996 Girls' Golf team: (front row from left) Meghan Casey, Tosha Winton, Tristan Snyder, Annie Wood, Shannon Daniels, Krissy Darnaby, Jahna Marlatt; and (back row) Star Swan, Kasey Anderson, Anne McKim, Coach Rico Stefanich, Jenny Dill, Resa Nussbaum, and Dede Wiener.





Resa Nussbaum chips close to the pin to secure her par.

Anne McKim concentrates on a putt during sectionals.



Kasey Anderson putts for a victory during an after school match.

Jenny Dill tees off during sectionals at the Sandy Pines Golf Course.

Cross Country Runs For A Finish

Overall the boys and girls cross country teams felt confident that they had successful seasons. The boys team made it



Seth Streitmatter, the only freshman on the boys team, runs for a sectional victory.

The 1996 boys cross country team: (front row from left) Alex Kingman, Justin Wiseman, Seth Streitmatter, Bryan McIntyre; and (back row) Ben Zimmer, Mike Koebeke, Brandon Lakin, Brandon Schreeg, and Coach Bill Zimmer.

Opponent

RCHS

Gavit Invitational	5th
Harrison Invitational	3rd
New Prairie Invitational	4th
Logansport Invitational	7th
Jefferson Invitational	16th
Conference	3rd
Sectionals	4th
Regionals	8th

to regionals and Ben Zimmer moved on as an individual representing the team by competing in semi-state, placing 24th. The boys team ended their season, winning eight meets and losing five. The girls also made it to regionals plus went to semi-state, placing 19th. The girls team ended their season, winning two meets and losing five. Cassie Frazee, a freshman, lead the team through a good season.

"I think our season went pretty well. We're only losing one senior, Brandon Schreeg, and I hope we can get everybody back next year. For the most part, I think it was a successful season. Our team knows next year we're going to have to start a little earlier."

- Ben Zimmer-

After a second place finish, Ben gets advice from Dad/Coach Zimmer at sectionals.





Kim Nagel is attempting to pass one of the Spartan opponents.

Cassie Frazee is crossing the finish line after running a great race.



The 1996-97 girls cross country team: (from left) Kim Nagel, Cassie Frazee, Tiffany Copley, Cara Ockerman, Shana Strietmatter, Brenda Johnson, and Coach Bill Zimmer.

Opponent	ACHS
Gavit Invit.	8th
Harrison Invit.	4th
New Prairie Invit.	8th
Logansport Invit.	7th
Jefferson Invit.	11th
Conference	3rd
Sectionals	2nd
Regionals	3rd
Semi-State	19th

Tennis Making Strides Toward Being Aces

The varsity tennis team finished up its second year of action this past fall. Even though they had a losing record of 4 and 8 they had many matches that were well with in reach of winning. They lost 2 to 3 against Lowell, River Forest, Harrison and Benton Central which were all very close matches that could have gone either way.

Colin Eshelman returns a serve from a Kan-kakee opponent.



Opponents	Varsity	J.V.
North Judson	W5-0	W3-2
Knox	W3-2	W4-1
Twin Lakes	L1-4	W4-1
K.V.	W5-0	W5-0
Lowell	L2-3	L2-3
Laporte	L	L
Invitational	L2-3	
River Forest	L	
Harrison	L2-3	
Lebanon	L	
Invitational		
Benton Central	W3-2	W4-1
Totals	4-8	5-2

The 1996 Boys Tennis team: (top row from left) Varsity- Ted Hoover, Matt Putman, Matt McCellan, Colin Eshelman, and Coach Doud; (bottom row) Junior Varsity Yo Gutwein, Kenny Wright, Adam Olson, Joby Green, Alex Able, Jatin Patel, Brandon Roberts, and Joel Leichthy.

The number two doubles of Matt Plett and Tim Warran won the conference, so it felt great to cap off a lot of hard work with a conference championship. Tim said, "Matt and I were undefeated going into conference so it felt great to cap off a lot of hard work with a Conference Championship."

At the end of the season Plett and Warran were awarded with the best varsity record. For the junior varsity team Joel Leichthy took home best record. Most improved went to Jatin Patel. Colin Eshelman who was number one singles was awarded mental attitude. Tim Warran with a conference championship, made MVP for the season.

The j.v. team finished up the season with a winning record of 5 and 2, even though there was a change of coaches during the latter part of the season. Coach Doud moved to Mt. Vernon during the season, so they replaced the head coaching job with Mr. Dave Day. The tennis team made great efforts even with the change of coaches throughout the season.

Below: Joel Leichthy is serving up an ace against Twin Lakes.

Middle: Jatin Patel serves for match win.





Number One Singles, Colin Eshelman, plays the net. Directly below, Christopher Louck plans his serving strategy. Center right, Alex Able returns with well struck skill.



Matt McClellan serves for the Bombers as partner Ted Hoover waits for a return. Matt Plett serves for a win with doubles partner Tim Warran.

SUCCESS CONTAGIOUS FOR J.V., FRESHMAN GAIN EXPERIENCE

The Junior Varsity Football team was very versatile this year. They were led by teammates Garrett Alson (QB) and Justin Roberts (RB) who took control of both the air and ground attacks. The season was highlighted with many close victories over tough teams such as Carroll and West Lafayette, the Carroll varsity team made it to the state finals. The junior

varsity team turned out a very impressive 6-1 which will help out the varsity team who are losing 11 seniors including cheerleader Heather Ney. The j.v. team ended up losing to Twin Lakes, the same team which ended the varsity team's season, 7-12 with the help of some varsity players from Monticello. Coach Josh Hauser was an inspiring leader for this team not backing down from any feat (even referee's). Mr. Hainje and Mr. Brandenburg's freshman team was not as impressive as they hoped to be, but as the season went on they showed many signs of excelling to the next level. Many strong performances by the Bombers didn't show up in the win column but they were well played games against tough opponents.

The Bombers were highlighted by leading rusher Chris Peck and a great supporting cast including QB Brian Rodibaugh and slot-back Brett Kasonavich. The Bomber defense who kept them in many games was led by Darren Lynch.

JUNIOR VARSITY SCHEDULE

Opponent	W-L	Score
North Newton	W	Forfeit
Lowell	W	18-14
Kankakee V.	W	34-0
Winamac	W	47-0
North Judson	W	48-0
Carroll	W	24-21
Twin Lakes	L	12-7
West Lafayette	W	20-10

The 1996 J.V. Football team. Top (L to R): Andrew Northcutt, Vince Urbano, Corey Malchow, Brandon Gilbert, J.R. Studer, Brandon Brown, Adam Buzcek, Matt Campbell, Brian Nagel. Middle: Matt Kiger, Justin Roberts, Brad Flemming, Phil Healy, Andrew Schulenburg, Joe Kosta, Chance Amsler, John Scott, Chad Pinkerman. Bottom: Tom Alberts, Garrett Alson, James Oliver, Brandon Maibenbrook, Marcus Thorton, Eric Nowlin, Greg Cannon, Kevin Reagan, Kyle Standish.





Center: The freshman defense tries to hold off the marching Bison in a tough match. Below: Justin Roberts attempts to score a touchdown from a handoff by Garrett Alson in a win over North Newton.



FRESHMAN SCHEDULE

Opponent	W-L	Score
Lowell	Tie	20-20
Benton Central	W	Forfeit
Kankakee V.	L	14-20
North Judson	L	0-8
River Forest	W	8-0
Lafayette Jeff	L	6-35
Twin Lakes	L	6-8
Rochester	L	8-26



The 1996 Freshman Football team. Front row (L to R): Tim Yenna, Darron Lynch, Brandon Lockridge, Kyle Nagel, Bryan Rodibaugh, Chris Peck, Andy Blasky. Middle row: Ryan Standish, Dennie Luchene, Brian Hannon, Charlie Swartzell, Tom Martin, Haney Marlin, Chris Yenna, Chris Smith. Top row: Mike Gibbs, Josh Scott, Brett Kasonovich, Eric Nagel, Josh Hardin, Ryan Gerin, Todd Tillotta, Tom Selbert, Kevin Zacher.

The Bombers Are Back On The Map

From last year's 2-7 to this year's 7-3, the football Bombers showed a lot of improvement in 1996. The turnaround was sparked by the senior leadership and the dedication of the entire team. The season started out in the weight room with the Bombers who weren't in winter sports. Hard work throughout the entire summer and two-a-days contributed to the success of the team.

The season started out with a huge moral victory over state ranked rivals Twin Lakes and North Judson. The Bombers took a bit of a stumble at Demote by falling to the Kougars, but bounced back winning the next three games. The 6-1 Bombers then traveled to Lowell for their last regular season game and a

shot at the conference title. The disappointed Bombers traveled home with a hard fought 28-12 defeat. Following the regular season, the optimistic Bombers put a 42-14 beating on a respectable Knox opponent, but they ended their season with a loss to avenging Twin Lakes, 25-6.

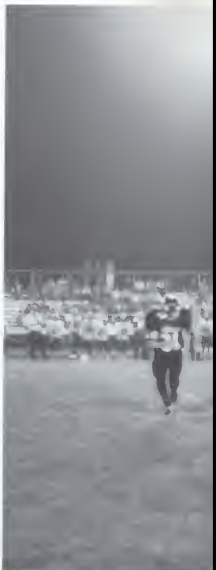
The Bombers "big play offense" was led by playmakers Jeremy Wilmington (870 yards passing and 14 TD's), Greg Cannon (18 catches for over 410 yards and 6 TD's), Adam Johns (760 yards rushing and 5 TD's), and were led by the lineman ("Meat Wagon": Chance Amsler, Mike Sitz, Jeff Goad, Ryan Wakefield, and Aaron Parrish).

The devastating defense was led by linebackers Adam Johns (111 tkls) and Eric Nowlin (98 tkls). The secondary was led by outstanding play of Brandon Brown (4 ints and 65 tkls), Garret Alson (3 ints) and Greg Cannon (2 ints). *(In the photo to the right, the offensive running game is set up by the "Meat Wagon.")*



The Bombers get the crowd into the biggest win of the season against North Judson.

Jeremy Wilmington drops back for a game winning pass.



VARSITY FOOTBALL

Opponent	W-L	Score
Twin Lakes	W	8-3
North Newton	W	35-16
North Judson	W	25-20
Kankakee Valley	L	7-14
Lake Station	W	14-10
River Forest	W	37-34
Benton Central	W	35-14
Lowell	L	12-28
SECTIONALS		
Knox	W	42-14
Twin Lakes	L	6-25



A tough defensive tackle never stops - Brandon Maienbrook.

The 1996-97 varsity football team: (front row from left) Corey Malchow, Justin Roberts, J.R. Studer, Matt Kiger, Garrett Alson, Tom Alberts, Adam Buzcek, Brian Nagel; (second row) Marcus Thorton, Phil Healy, Brandon Gilbert, James Oliver, Eric Nowlin, Greg Cannon, Matt Campbell, Kyle Standish; (third row) Coach Matt Anderson, Chance Amsler, Andrew Schulenburg, Brad Fleming, Andrew Northcutt, Vince Urbano, John Scott, Joe Kosta, Brandon Brown, Kevin Reagan, Brandon Maienbrook, Chad Pinkerman, Coach Josh Hauser; and (back row) Coach Jerry McKim, Keith Van Weinen, Dave Del Principe, Tim Brown, Ryan Wakefield, Mike Sitz, Jeff Goad, Jeremy Wilmington, Craig Clouse, Adam Johns, Ben Standish, Aaron Parrish, and Coach Chris Meeks.



VARSITY NETTERS SET A GREAT SEASON.

The RCHS varsity volleyball team finished a great 1996 season with a record of 13 and 17. "The season was a success because of the effort of the girls," Coach Derek Klute stated. "They entered the gym every night knowing that their effort was going to be a key factor in the outcome of the match."

The Lady Netters had four seniors on the squad and wanted every game to be a success because it was their last season. "We had a lot of ups and downs," said Cindy Balvich, one of the four seniors, "and I wish we could have had a winning season."

Even though their record didn't show it, the girls played well and practiced hard all the time. "There was never a problem with the amount of effort in practice, sometimes the problem was positioning," Coach Klute commented. "Changing our defensive scheme caused the most problems, but I believe, in the long run, this was a change for the better."

Going into sectionals the girls were pumped and ready to play. They won their first game to North Newton, but then in the second game they lost tragically to West Central. The Bombers may have lost, but they gave the Trojans the fight of their lives. "The season went really well overall, but myself and everyone else wish we could have won sectionals," said Tonya Tiede, another of the senior netters.

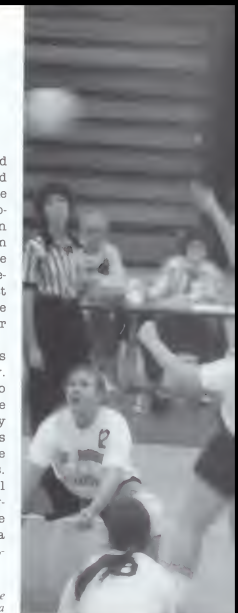
Senior Natali Watts pounds the ball while Holly Raff and Shannon Nesius wait for a possible return.

Senior Tonya Tiede spikes the ball down to the floor of the other team's side.

Opponent

Boone Grove	W
Harrison	L
Kouts	W
McCutcheon	L
Twin Lakes	L
Lowell	L
River Forest	W
Harrison Inv. - Laf. CC	L
... Gary West	W
... Indy Brebeuf	L
... Clinton Central	L
Lake Station	W
Frontier	W
North Judson	L
Washington Twp. Inv. - Argos	L
... Hobart	L
... Morgan Twp.	L
North Newton	W
Tri-County	W
Benton Central	L
Winamac	W
North White	W
North White Inv. - NW	W
... West Central	L
West Central	L
Kankakee Valley	L
South Newton	W
Hebron	L
SECTIONAL	
North Newton	W
West Central	L

Senior Megan Bailey throws the ball up for a serve.





Senior Cindy Balvich digs the ball in a pregame warm-up. Natali Watts, Tonya Tiede, Cindy Balvich, and Megan Bailey proudly standing with their parents before a home crowd for Senior Night 1996.



The 1996-97 varsity volleyball team: (bottom from left): Manager Missy Gilbert, Kristy Burman, Kristina Brandenburg, Anne Chapman, Mgr. Kristen Wickert; and (top from left) Coach Derek Klute, Cindy Balvich, Hannah Zimmer, Natali Watts, Tonya Tiede, Holly Raff, Shannon Neisus, and Coach Linda Kaufman.

JV and Freshman Netters Dig up a Super Season

With two freshmen helping out, the junior varsity volleyball team finished with a very successful second season. The sophomores pulled everyone together and helped make a victorious junior varsity team. Sophomores Sara Putt, Amiee Clouse, and Andrea Nussbaum expressed their feelings about the team, "Even though we struggled at times, we think it all came together in the end, and we ended up with a winning season."

Most of the time the j.v. netters were on the road, but when they came and played back at home, there was always a crowd to cheer the Bombers on.

Everyday the j.v. practiced diligently with the freshman team, helping them break a few bad habits and develop their volleyball skills. "The practices were hard most of the time, but in the end all our work paid off and we had a great season," Jody Graf, a freshman front line hitter, stated. It didn't take long for the freshman to get a hang of the rules of the court and by the end they were getting praises from everyone. They finished their first volleyball season of their high school career with a great record of 8 and 3.

Allison Allie bats the ball across the net on a serve.

Big picture (l to r): Stacey Johns digs the ball, Amiee Clouse waits as a backup and Kara Tiede is prepared to set the ball up for a kill.





Amee Clouse, Tara Wood, and Jessica Fredrick wait patiently to block any spike the attempts to go over the net.

Jessica Fredrick draws back to smack the ball over the net.



The 1996 junior varsity volleyball team: (top from left) Christina Teske, Tara Wood, Stephanie Jordan, Coach Linda Kaufman, Amy Hanewich, Sarah Bailey, Sara Cummings, Michelle Mattocks. (middle) Mgr. Missy Gillbert, Jody Graf, Sara Puit, Aimee Clouse, Candi Wilkerson, Erin Kosta, Lindsay Jefferies, Mgr. Kristen Wickert, (bottom) Kara Tiede, Stacey Johns, Jessica Fredrick, Allison Allie, Andrea Nussbaum, Meeghan Smith, Amber Mattocks, and Nicole Nagel.

Wrestlers Go Undefeated

The 1996-1997 RCHS wrestling team had another great season, finishing the season undefeated for the first time ever, which is a major accomplishment. The team consisted of many individuals who excelled this season. The squad competed in sectionals and won the title for the third year in a row. All but four individuals from the Bomber squad won individual sectional titles. The Bombers advanced to the team regionals which took place in Crown Point. The wrestlers fell

short of the championship and finished second as a team.

In the individual regionals three wrestlers, Greg Cannon (145), Adam Johns (171), and Mike Sitz (heavyweight), advanced. Greg Cannon did a great job and finished by taking the honor of an individual regional title. A great performance which gave him the privilege of advancing to semi-state. The team's hard work was proven with the finish of a season to be proud of.



Mike Sitz takes top honor at conference. The Matt Maids (from left): Pepper Brock, Brandi Stone, Lauren McIntyre, Holly Sinar, Kara Ockerman, and Kathy Baker.

Opponent	Score
Kankakee Valley	W
N. White Invitational	1st
Harrison	W
South Newton	W
Andrean	W
T.L. Invitational	3rd
Benton Central	W
Pioneer	W
West Central	W
McCutcheon	W
NWHC	2nd
Sectional	1st
Regional (team)	2nd



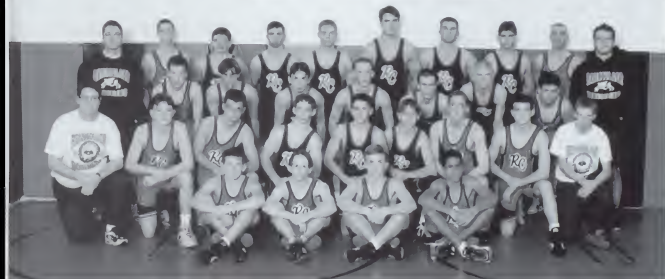


Mike Sitz pins his opponent for another win.

Greg Cannon struggles for a pin as his teammates look on.



The 1996-97 wrestling team: (top row from left) Coach Chris Meeks, Tim Yenna, Ray Bower, Adam Johns, Jason Scott, Vince Urbano, Mike Sitz, Kyle Standish, Brad Fleming, Coach Matt Anderson.; (second row) Joby Green, Keith VanWienen, James Oliver, Bryan McIntyre, Greg Cannon, Mike Koebeke, Charlie Todd; (third row) Mark Nagel, Wade Campbell, Josh Wireman, Marcus Thorton, Brandon Roberts, Andy Blasky, Kenny Wright, Chris Yenna, Scott Miller, and (fourth row) Tom Alberts, Chris Sione, Kyle Nagel, and Haney Martin.



New Coach, New Season, Spell Success for the Lady Swimmers

The Lady Bomber Swim Team had a unique and exciting season, filled with all sorts of new experiences. They had a new coach, 8 new members, and a new season that meant sharing the pool with the

boys for the first time. Despite the changes, the lady swimmers had an excellent season, placing second at NWHC and having an overall record of 12-5. According to Coach Maureen Jungblut, "Early in the season, the lady swimmers decided to do three things:

- 1) Work hard,
- 2) Play hard, and
- 3) Have pride in ourselves and our accomplishments.

By the end of the season, we had accomplished all the goals. The ladies were a true team, working together to make each other the best she could be. The result of the season were the proof."

Overall, the "modified" team came together for a good season.



Swimmers, Jessica Taulman and Stephanie Gish, prepare for a race against the K.V. Kougers.

The 1996-97 ladies' swim team: (top row from left) Coach Maureen Jungblut, Sarah Brown, Lacy Zobel, Megan Alson, Sarah Taulman, Stephanie Gish, Erin McIlwain, Diving Coach Libby Landrum; (middle row) Rachel Waling, Candice Wilkerson, Libby Weston, Jessica Taulman, Beth Fish, Kasey Goad, Desiree Hopkins, Beth Houston; and (bottom row) Brittany Sweeney, Lucy Gutwein, Marie Nagel, Resa Nussbaum, Kasey Anderson, and Brooke Wickersham.



RCHS

W
W
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L

Opponent

North Judson
Seeger
Harrison
Twin Lakes
Central Catholic
West Lafayette
Merrillville
Pioneer
Griffith
North Newton
Delphi
South Newton
Benton Central
Kankakee Valley
Lafayette Jeff
Knox
Lowell





Swimmers cheer in anticipation of the upcoming meet.

Diver Marie Nagel performs a back one in the straight position.



Sarah Taulman practices her relay start before a meet.

Swimming to win in the 100 butterfly, Sarah Taulman makes important splashes.

Young Swimmers Make Waves

"Knowing this was a rebuilding year, the team exceeded the goals I set for them at the beginning of the year," offered Coach Dan Kellow.



Veteran swim coach Dan Kellow.

Opponent	Result
Twin Lakes	L
Merrillville	L
Pioneer	W
Griffith	L
Kankakee Valley	L
South Newton	W
Benton Central	W
Kankakee Valley	L
Lafayette Jefferson	L
NWHC	3rd
Harrison	L
Seeger	W
McCutcheon	L
North Judson	W
Rensselaer Invite	3rd
Sectional	7th

The 1996-97 boys' swim team: (first row from left): Andy Earnest, Chris Kellow, Luke Tillet, Ian Querry, Ryan Standish, Jarod Steffen, and (top row) Coach Dan Kellow, Ben Zimmer, Paul Dumas, Scott Taylor, Dave Del Principe, Ryan Brown, Brian Cummings, and Assistant Coach Libby Landrum.

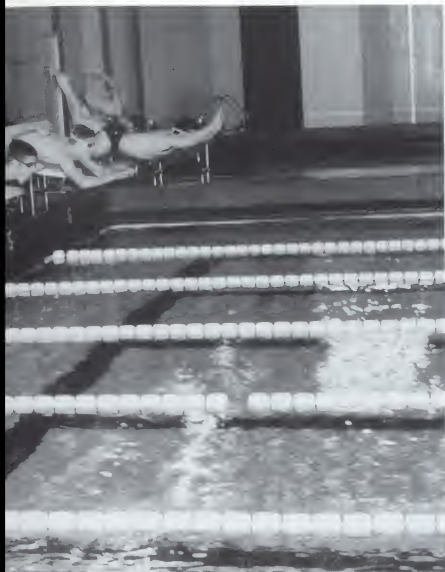
This season, the men's swimming team was low in numbers, young in age, but abundant in enthusiasm. Despite having only twelve members, two of whom were seniors, the men's team had an impressive season with 8 wins and 7 losses.

The team had improvements in time all year, allowing almost every swimmer to have his best time at sectionals. "It's nice to see all the guys work real hard during the season, and have impressive drops at sectionals," said Senior Dave Del Principe, "they deserved it."

The future for men's swimming looks bright, with four freshman and four juniors contributing to the scoring heavily. Only two sophomores were on the roster this year. Senior Scott Taylor said, "This is a rebuilding year... I expect to see good progress in the future."

Although focused on hard work, the men's team made a point to have a good time. Junior Paul Dumas, on the team for the first time, said "We had great team chemistry; we came together really well."





Ben Zimmer and Dave Del Principe lunge towards an expected victory in the 50-yard freestyle.

Mounting the block and preparing for a race, Luke Tillett assumes the position of winner.



Scott Taylor takes his last gulp of air before finishing his patented 100-yard freestyle.

Gasping for air in the breast stroke, Ian Query shoots for the win.

J.V. and Freshman Girls Enjoy Fine Seasons

The freshman and junior varsity girls basketball teams enjoyed a fine 1996-1997 season. The j.v. finished their year at a respectable 10-8 and captured a couple of big wins over Lowell and West Central. The girls defeated River Forest and North Newton en route to winning the RCHS J.V. Tourney.

Awards for the j.v. team went

JUNIOR VARSITY SCHEDULE

Opponent	W-L	Score
Twin Lakes	L	16-32
Knox	L	25-32
Central Cath.	L	18-19
Winamac	L	17-25
North Judson	L	27-42
Lowell	W	21-16
Lake Station	W	41-18
Hebron	L	28-31
North Newton	W	27-11
South Newton	W	17-12
West Central	W	42-13
North White	W	26-12
K.V.	L	14-30
Tri-County	L	22-25
Frontier	W	31-6
River Forest	W	32-29
J.V. Tourney		
River Forest	W	40-27
North Newton	W	34-14

The 1996-97 junior varsity girls basketball team: (front row from left) Lauren Koebcke, Beth Hannon, Aimee Clouse, Stephanie Jordan, Kristy Burman; (second row) Sara Putt, Andrea Nussbaum; and (third row) manager Jill Austin, Angela Koebcke, Stacy Johns, Jessica Fredrick, and Coach Marian Horazy.

to the following: Most Rebounds and Best Field Goal Percentage - Stephanie Jordan, Most Assists - Sara Putt, and Most Steals - Jessica Fredrick.

The freshman girls started off their high school careers in fine fashion ending their season with a 12-5 record. The team won both the RCHS and Kankakee Valley tourneys. At the RCHS tourney the Bombers beat the Valparaiso B team and Benton Central, and they did the same beating K.V. and Lowell in the K.V. tourney. They also had some big wins over tough teams throughout the season. The awards given at the end of the year went to Kara Tiede (Best Free Throw Percentage), Erin Kosta (Most Assists), Tara Wood (Most Rebounds and Most Steals), and Michelle Mattocks (Best Field Goal Percentage).

Stacy Johns shoots over a Central Catholic defender for two.





Erin Kosta runs the offense from the top off the key.



FRESHMAN SCHEDULE

Opponent	W-L	Score
Lafayette Jeff	L	38-39
North Newton	L	37-50
Benton Central	L	40-45
Knox	W	55-45
McCutcheon	W	34-17
K.V.	W	33-27
West Lafayette	W	50-33
Rensselaer Tourney		
Valparaiso B	W	42-34
Benton Central	W	43-32
K.V. Tourney		
Knox	W	49-29
Lowell	W	43-32
Harrison	W	40-36
Lake Central	W	61-18
Valparaiso A	L	26-32
Crown	L	32-43
K.V.	W	24-21
Lowell	W	36-30



The 1996-97 freshman girls' basketball team: (front row from left) Meeghan Smith, Kara Tiede, Sarah Bailey, manager Cassie Norrington, Kim Joseph, Sarah Hardin, Erin Kosta; and (second row) Jody Graf, Tara Wood, Sara Cummings, Coach Linda Kaufman, Michelle Mattocks, Lori Lane, and Lindsey Jeffries.

Girls Varsity Basketball

Tight "D" by Megan Bailey kept the Lady Bombers in a tight game with Central Catholic.



Opponent	W-L	Score
Twin Lakes	L	46-70
Knox	L	39-47
Central Catholic	L	48-51
Winamac	W	74-69
North Judson	W	59-47
Lowell	W	66-41
Lake Station	W	46-37
Hebron	W	48-28
North Newton	L	46-49
South Newton	W	50-41
Carroll	L	41-44
Rossville	L	43-70
West Central	L	44-55
North White	W	36-18
Kankakee Valley	L	38-53
Tri County	L	32-47
Frontier	W	47-43
River Forest	W	68-55
North Newton	W	45-44
Kankakee Valley	L	42-50

The 1996-97 Lady Bombers: (top row from left) Coach Marian Horazy, Manager Jill Austin, Kim Nagel, Heather Chamness, Naali Watts, Hannah Zimmer, Holly Raff, Coach Jerry McKim; and (bottom row) Cindy Balvich, Stephanie Sellers, Tonya Tiede, Megan Bailey, and Kristina Brandenburg.

The girls varsity basketball team started out working hard, but, unfortunately, they did not do very well, starting out at 0-3. They did a good job teamwise, and continued to try as hard as they could. The girls did have a goal, and their goal was to use teamwork coupled with a strong effort to win. They went through hard practices to achieve this goal, because it's what they loved to do, and when it was all over with, it was well worth the trouble to know that they played their hardest.

The girls eventually made it to the sectionals. They were in the final game when things went bad, as Kankakee Valley won 42-50. But all in all, the season came out all right, with an even 10-10 season.





Hannah Zimmer takes a jump shot, while Kim Nagel waits for the rebound.

Tonya Tiede skies for two during the Central Catholic game.



Coach Jerry McKim and Coach Marian Horazy share some of their knowledge with the team during a time out.

The fight for ball breaks out as Kim Nagel, Heather Chamness, and Tonya Tiede battle under the net.

JV and Freshmen "Hoop" It Up

Split Records Show Promise for Future

Looking to pass in to his teammates, freshman Charlie Swartzel lofts the ball high over his head.



Freshman Mark Brouwer attempts to pass the ball in to either Jared Courtney or Adam Alson.



The Bomber offense runs their elaborate screening game to perfection, as the freshmen pressure Lowell.

FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL

Opponent

North White
Benton Central
Harrison
Winnamac
Tri-County
KV Jamboree
Valparaiso
South Newton
North Judson
North Newton
Lowell
North White Tournament
Carrol
Caston

W-L

L
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W



The junior varsity and freshman boys basketball teams experienced split results during the 1996-97 season. The j.v. squad came out ahead at 11-9, with members like Justin Roberts stepping up to varsity when the need arose. On the other

hand, four freshmen (Brett Kosonovich, Eric Nagel, Bryan Rodibaugh, and Kevin Gillespie) made the swing to the junior varsity team during the season.

The freshmen, on the other hand, although ending up with more games lost, found themselves beating some tough opponents.

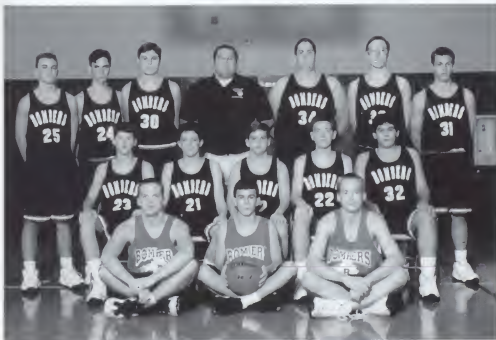
Among the junior varsity award winners were Chad Witherington (Most Improved), Justin Roberts (Most Valuable Player), and Alex Kingman (Mental Attitude). Those freshmen who won included Adam Alson (Most Improved), Kyle Curtis (Hustle), and Jared Courtney (Mental Attitude).

FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL

Opponent	W-L
Delphi	W
Twin Lakes	L
Tri-County	L
Central Catholic	W
North White	W
Harrison	W
South Newton	L
Frontier	W
North Judson	L
West Central	L
Pioneer	L
Lowell	W
North Judson	W
Benton Central	W
North Newton	W
Kankakee Valley	L
River Forest	W
West Lafayette	L
Lake Station	W
Southmont	L



The 1996-97 junior varsity basketball: (back row from left) Assistant Coach Jason Quigg, Chad Witherington, Brett Kosonovich, Eric Nagel, Dave Risner, Alex Kingman, Matt Kiger, and Head Coach Derek Klute; and (front row) Corey Malchow, Justin Roberts, Eric Nowlin, Matt Lanoue, Yo Gutwein, and Jatin Patel.



The 1996-97 freshman basketball team: (back row) Todd Tilotta, Kyle Curtis, Heath Malone, Coach Jason Quigg, Mark Brouwer, Charlie Swartzell, Kevin Gillespie; (middle row) Bryan Rodibaugh, Brian Hannon, Dennis Luchene, Adam Alson, Jared Courtney; and (front row managers) Andrew Shulenberg, Sean Cawby, Matt Pizer.

Bombers Go Through Ups and Downs

The 1996-1997 Rensselaer Central boys varsity basketball team finished off the season with a 12-9 record. The season included a spurt of a six game winning streak and a four game losing streak. "The streaks kind of summed up the way

our season went. We were a young team and we had our ups and downs," Coach Josh Hauser commented on the season. Although the Bombers had a disappointing end to their season, at times they showed flashes of being a team that could contend for a regional title.

The Bombers were led by their two All-Conference players, Jeremy Wilmington and John Scott. Wilmington led the Bombers in scoring at 13 points per game and Scott led the Bombers in rebounding, ripping down 6 per game. Other Bombers who played important roles were Brandon Maienbrook (3 steals per game), Garrett Alson (5 assists per game), Brandon Brown (6 points per game) and sixth man Tim Warran who always provided a lift off of the bench. "The boys made my first year of coaching extremely enjoyable by always working hard and having fun on and off the floor," Coach Hauser remarked.

Jeremy Wilmington drains a pair of free throws during the sectional game.



Brandon Maienbrook sinks a jumper against the Indians.

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Opponent	W-L	Score
Delphi	W	64-57
Twin Lakes	L	46-55
Tri-County	W	50-44
Central Catholic	W	57-50
North White	W	57-38
Harrison	L	52-69
South Newton	L	43-54
Frontier	W	63-54
Southmont	L	41-53
Kankakee Valley	W	50-44
Pioneer	W	61-44
Lowell	W	55-52
North Judson	L	61-63
Benton Central	W	65-60
North Newton	W	65-55
West Central	W	65-54
Kankakee Valley	L	59-60
River Forest	W	69-59
West Lafayette	L	56-58
Lake Station	L	47-56
SECTIONALS		
Twin Lakes	L	55-34





The Bombers demonstrate their playing style by diving for a loose ball.

Attempting to get over Twin Lakes, John Scott shoots his patented hook.



Tim Warran finds the open man in the Twin Lakes Sectional game.



The 1996-97 varsity boys basketball team: (front row from left) Managers Corey Malchow and Jatin Patel; and (middle row) Eric Nowlin, Matt Lanoue, Tim Warran, Jeremy Wilmington, Brandon Maienbrook, Garrett Alson; and (top row) Coaches Derek Klute and Jake Quigg, Matt Plett, Joe Kosta, John Scott, Dave Risner, Brandon Brown, and Coach Josh Hauser.

Another Successful Season for Mens Golf

The men's golf team had quite a successful season. They finished up the year with a record of 10-3. The varsity team was made up of two sophomores, Alex Abel and Tom Alberts; two juniors, Paul Dumas and Micah Beaver; and just one senior, Scott Taylor. Despite the amount of youth on this team they were able to exceed their original expectations.

A highlight of the season was the first place finish at the Northwest Hoosier Conference Meet. The Bombers captured the conference title for the fifth year in a row. Paul Dumas and Scott Taylor tied for medalist honors at conference with a pair of 77's. Paul, Scott and Micah Beaver were all named to First Team All Conference, while teammates Alex Abel and Tom Alberts received Honorable Mention All Conference.

The results from sectional were mixed. The team lost a chance to advance by one stroke. Paul Dumas also lost out in sudden death, but Micah Beaver was fortunate enough to play in the LaPorte regionals.

The men's golf team number one man, Paul Dumas attempts to reach the green of a long par 5 (number 3 at Curtis Creek) in two. Paul went on to birdie that hole and fire a 37, which captured match medalist honors.

Alex Abel attempts to escape from the woods on the first hole of a match at Curtis Creek Country Club.



Tom Albert sizes up his approach to hole 4.

Senior Scott Taylor hits his second shot toward the cup at the short par 4 number 2 at Curtis Creek.





Bomber golfer Micah Beaver prepares to sink his birdie putt in the RCHS invitational. Micah went on to shoot 79 that afternoon and finish in third place as an individual.



Opponent

W-L

Andrean	L
Twin Lakes Invit.	11th/18
*Kankakee Valley	W
Lake Central	W
*McCutcheon	W
Boone Grove	W
*Hanover Central	W
Lowell	W
Lafayette Jeff Invit.	6th/15
Kankakee Valley Invit.	2nd/15
*West Central	W
Winamac	L
RCHS Invit.	3rd/17
*Kankakee Valley	W
Tri-County	W
South Newton	W
NWHC Conference	1st/7
Lake Hills Invit.	5th/16
Northwestern Invit.	7th/12
Benton Central	L
Sectionals	L

The 1997 Rensselaer Central men's golf team: (front row from left to right) Managers Dede Weiner and Star Swan; (middle row) Ian Queery, Tom Alberts, Alex Abel, Brian Cummings, Jayce Halligan, Micah Beaver, Wayne Cover, Coach Rich Stefanich; and (back row) Charlie Swartzell, Scott Taylor, Ryan Brown, Paul Dumas, Matt Plett, Heath Malone, and Mark Nagel.

Off to the Races!

"This group of guys that I had this year made up an extremely young, but talented, track team. They have great potential, and if they stick with it, in a few years they will be extremely successful," said Coach Bill Zimmer.



Chris Kellow takes his time before throwing the discus in a three way meet with RC, North Judson, and North Newton.

The 1997 boys track team from left to right: (row one) Hani Marlin, Mark Slade, Ryan Standish, Chris Peck, Kevin Gillespie, Brian Hannon, Chris Yenna, Cory Malchow, Seth Streitmater; (row two) Brandon Lakin, Josh Taylor, Chris Kellow, Andrew Schulenburg, Chad Pinkerman, Chad Koebke, Justin Weisman, Ben Zimmer, Kieth VanWienen; and (row three) Coach Bill Zimmer, Coach Dan Kellow, Andy Pitstick, Rob Plaff, Jason Scott, Josh Scott, Eric Nagel, Brandon Brown, Tim Dewey, Ben Standish, Devin Pitcher, Coach Allen Wortley and Coach Tom Landrum.

He also said that his boys were very competitive no matter who the opponent. With teams like Harrison, West Lafayette, KV and Twin Lakes, a group of mentally tough desirable boys to achieve success against teams such as these.

Track is the only spring sport which allows 16 different events to suit a competitors' interests. From long jump to shot put and the two mile to hurdles, track never gets boring.

During the 1997 season, three Bomber boys won their conference events: Chad Pinkerman, a sprinter and long jumper, won the long jump; distance runner Ben Zimmer won the mile; and muscle man Ben Standish won the shot put. Alex Kingman went to regionals in pole vault. Congratulations on another job well done, boys!

Andrew Schulenburg soars through the air at RCHS during one of the first meets.





Opponent

W-L

Kankakee Valley	L
Twin Lakes,	
South Newton,	
North White	2nd
North Newton	W
North Judson	L
Winamac	W
Harrison,	
West Lafayette,	3rd
Lowell,	
Lake Station	2nd
JV Invitational	3rd
Delphi Relays	2nd
Gene Edmonds Relays	2nd
Conference Meet	2nd
Boone Grove,	
Knox	2nd
Delphi,	
Twin Lakes	2nd

With total Bomber pride senior Keith VanWeinen crosses the 800 finish line at Twin Lakes.



Brandon Brown explodes from the blocks during the 200 at Twin Lakes.

The Man that makes it all possible poses for a picture with son Ben and Chad Pinkerman.

Girls Run a Near Perfect Season

Opponent	W-L
Kankakee Valley	W
West Central	W
N. Newton/N. Judson	W
Winamac	W
Harrison/W. Lafayette	W/L
Lowell/Lake Station	W
G. E. Relays	2nd
Conference	W
Boone Grove/Knox	W
Delphi/Twin Lakes	W
Sectionals	2nd

The 1997 RCHS girls track team had a pretty impressive season. They started out well, and just kept running with it. They were successful in their first five meets, losing to West Lafayette but continuing to win all the way until they got to the Gene Edmonds Relays where they placed second to Benton Central. Those were their only two losses though, until they got to sectionals where, as an overall team, ended up coming in second place and sending a total of ten girls to regionals. These girls were, in no particular order: Cassie Frazee, Cara Ockerman, Kristina Brandenburg, Jessica Fredrick, Lauren McIntyre, Heather Chamness, Kristy Kellner, Marie Nagel, and Stephanie Jordan. The girls all ended up doing well, and many of them ran or threw their personal bests. They ended their regular season to make Rensselaer proud with a 24-2 record.



Sarah Putt runs for the win in the relay race.

The 1997 girls' track team: (front row from left) Cara Ockerman, Lori Lane, Amber Mattocks, Jennifer Whitaker, Marie Nagel, Kristina Brandenburg, Megan Bailey, Holly Raff, Stephanie Jordan; (second row) Michelle Ringen, Darci Donnelly, Angie Koebeke, Sarah Bailey, Tara Tiede, Lauren McIntyre, Jessica Fredrick, Sarah Putt, Andrea Nussbaum, Shana Streitmatter, Jenny Nystrom; and (last row) Coach Nancy Messman, Tonya Vigeant, Kelly Goodman, Cassie Frazee, Jessica Taulman, Jodi Graf, Trisha Huhn, Beth Hannon, Amy Hanewich, Amber Luzzader, Kristy Kellner, Sarah Cummings, Tristan Snyder, Brenda Johnson, Heather Chamness, and assistant coach Linda Kaufman.





Lori Lane leads the group in a long distance run.

Heaving the put for the win, Heather Chamness tosses from the Delphi circle.



Marie Nagel sprints for a win in the 400.

Trying not to fall over the hurdle, Jessica Fredrick pours it on.

JV and Freshman Baseball Hit it Home

The junior varsity and freshman baseball teams had a very good season in 1997 finishing with a record of 9-6 on the j.v. and 4-5 on the freshman. The j.v. baseball team experienced a very long season starting on April 8 and due to rain delays and other postponed games, it

didn't end until May 31.

Coach Sam Cox said this about the performances, "The season went well, the j.v. set some goals for themselves and I believe they were reached. It was a very good season even though at times we looked like the bad news bears and at other times we looked like a very good ball club. I think the kids enjoyed playing they were always excited to be out their practicing and playing. I also enjoyed working with coach Stevens, we worked well together and I think complemented each other. I think if the program keeps going the way it is great things will happen."

Brett Kosonovich pitches another strike.



The combined 1997 jv and freshman baseball teams: (back row from left) Coach Sam Cox, Matt Kiger, managers Candi Wilkerson, Kim Nagel, Amy Shide, Yo Gutwein, Coach Zach Wells; (second row) Bryan Rodibaugh, Brett Kasonovich, Kevin Zacher, Josh Hardin, Matt Drains, Jared Courtney; and (front row) Adam Alson, Kyle Nagel, Sean Cawby, Dennis Luchene, Travis Owsley, Levi Mattingly, Brian Nagel, Dan Amsler.





Kyle Nagel watches a team mate score a run.

Team members take a short break from the game.

Junior Varsity

Twin Lakes	W
Lowell	L
Tri-County	W
Kankakee Valley	L
Hebron	W
South Newton	W
Benton Central	W
Tri-County	W
North Newton	L
North Judson	W
Kankakee Valley	L
Harrison	L
North Newton	L
Frontier	W
Benton County	W
R.C.H.S. Tourney	3rd

Freshmen

Kankakee Valley	W
Lake Central	W.L
Lowell	L.L
Harrison	L.W
Twin Lakes	W.L



Matt Kiger watches as his team mate slides in for a run.

Kyle Nagel scores a run.

Rensselaer Bombs Conference Competition

The 1997 Rensselaer Central Bomber baseball team had a thoroughly successful season, winning a conference championship and sectional. The Bombers won conference outright after sweeping North Newton, who had a chance to win the



Senior slugger Jeremy Wilmington returns back to first base after smacking a single.

Opponent

South Newton
West Central
McCutcheon
Benton Central
Tri-County
*North Judson
*DH
Lowell
Hebron
Kouts
*Kankakee
Valley
*DH
Harrison
Lowell
West Central
*River Forest
*DH
Merrillville
Andean
*Lake Station
*DH
Winamac
*North Newton
*DH
Tri-County
North White
West Lafayette
Sectionals

W-L

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* Represents double header games

title with a sweep of the Bombers. The Bombers' only losses in the conference season came when they lost to Tri County by one run and split with both North Judson and Kankakee Valley. The totally satisfying sectional win came in a 10-3 romp over Frontier.

The Bombers thrived all season on their loaded line-up which had an awesome display of power, totalling over 30 home runs. The home run total was led by seniors Jeremy Wilmington, Ryan Wakefield and Adam Johns (also chipping in his share was junior Kyle Standish.) The Bombers were also loaded with consistent pitching throughout the entire season by right handers Adam Johns, Josh Smith and Dave Risner.

The Bombers' great success was due largely in part to new coach Matt Stevens, his sidekicks Sam Cox and Zach Wells, and their great knowledge of the game.

Third baseman Matt McClellan attempts to knock the cover off of the ball.





Pitcher Dave Risner helps his own cause as he scores against Frontier during the sectional win at Twin Lakes.

Senior Adam Johns anxiously awaits the pitch as he attempts to steal home.



During a tense moment against Frontier, Coach Stevens calls an infield pow-wow to save the sectional victory for the Bombers.

The 1997 Varsity Baseball team: (front row from left) Bryan McIntyre, Isra Hendon, Justin Roberts, Garrett Alson, Jatin Patel and David Risner; (second row) Manager Candice Wilkerson, Matt Lanoue, Josh Smith, Matt McAleer, Kyle Standish, Matt McClellan, Manager Amy Shide; (third row) Trainer Kim Nagel, Jeremy Wilmington, Adam Johns, Bruce Culbreth, John Scott, Ryan Wakefield; and (back row) Coaches Sam Cox, Matt Stevens and Zach Wells.

Girls Make Racket on the Court

In only its third year, the R.C.H.S. girls' tennis team showed a remarkable turnout, as well as astonishing improvement. Although the varsity team failed to win a contest as a team this season, many superb individual efforts were given each and every match. Kristy Burman, Allison Allie, and Meredith Spicer were respectively numbers one, two, and three varsity singles players. The number one doubles team consisted of Anne Chapman and Lauren Koebocke, while the number two team was composed of Erin Kingman and Sarah Taulman. With Taulman being the only senior on the team, the coaches looked forward to a high return rate during the next year with a large group of seniors to lead the way to a successful season. Sarah Brown, Meegan Smith, and Cookie Bryant were the number one through three junior varsity singles players, and the junior varsity doubles teams featured

the tandems of Lacy Zobel and Jennifer Pizer at number one, and Michelle Mattocks and Nicole Nagel at number two. The junior varsity team posted a 3-7 record on the season.

Cookie Brant refelected on the season: "Although we had our differences, toward the end of the season we got off our posteriors and really started work and play hard."

Lacy Zobel added, "This year has been a learning experience, because we all became better tennis players and athletes."

The 1997 girls tennis team: (back row from left) Coach Megan Buckley, Amber Baggerly, Kelly Bridges, Michelle Mattocks, Jamie Minix, Lindsay Jefferies, Lauren Koebocke, Sarah Taulman, Kristy Burman, Lacy Zobel, Erin Kingman, Jen Pizer, Coach Chasity Miller; (middle) Debbie Jennings, Morgan Keiper, Rebekah Hansen, Meeghan Smith, Nicole Nagel, Amanda Wheeler, Meredith Spicer, Jodi Lakin, Beth Fish, Lucy Gutwein; and (front) Brittany Sweeney, Barb Lewis, Sarah Brown Allison Allie, Anne Chapman, Cookie Bryant, Desiree Hopkins, Maria Rodriguez, and Patty Wheelodon.



Opponents

W-L

Kankakee Valley	L
Rossville Invitational	L
Benton Central	L
Knox	L
LaPorte Invitational	L
River Forest	L
Lowell	L
McCutcheon	L
Conf. @ Lake Station	L
North Judson	L
Twain Lakes	L
Kankakee Valley	L
Harrison	L





Number one singles player Kristy Burman charges the net in anticipation of her opponent's return shot.

Sarah Brown helps out doubles partner Sarah Taulman with a wicked backhand.



Jennifer Pizer reaches to return an incoming shot.

Junior Lacy Zobel looks on as she follows through another ace.

Cheerleading Reaches New Heights

The cheerleaders had an NCA camp counselor come to Rensselaer this summer in order to have camp at home. Several of the cheerleaders were nominated for a spot on the NCA All-American Cheerleading Team: Lauren McIntyre and Marie Nagel were selected for the team.

When football season began, the cheerleaders were ready to out do all of the opposing teams' squads. Then, during basketball they increased their number of wins to finish with an undefeated Cheerleading season. The real challenge came during the Midwest Regional Valparaiso Cheerleading Contest. The Varsity Squad

competed in the small squad division and received a first place trophy.

However, the most important element of the season was the bond of friendship and love that developed between all the cheerleading squads. Even larger than the trophies they received were the memories and friends.

Heather Ney was the only senior participating in Cheerleading this year. A happy good luck covered up a sad good-bye at sectionals, her last night of cheering. Again, the squads demonstrated their close bond as well as their excellent abilities.



During a chilly football game Tabatha Martin, Rebekah Hansen, and Megan Marshall finish off a chant with Bomber spirit.

In the top right photo Anna Poppen and Rebekah Hansen cheer on the Bombers during the final game of sectionals.

In the middle photo, the junior varsity squad: (from top to bottom of "V") Rebekah Hansen, Ambyr Lucas, Tabatha Martin, Megan Casey, and Morgan Keiper.

Directly to the right, the freshman squad: (from top to bottom) Anna Poppen, Leslie Kennedy, Sara Saylor, Alisha Harper, and Kim McClellan.





Varsity Cheerleaders hold their finishing pose to dazzle the crowd.

Varsity cheerleader Lauren McIntyre reaches new heights throughout the season.



The 1996-97 varsity squad: (from left) Barb Woodke, Heather Ney, Megan Marshall, Lauren McIntyre, Marie Nagel, and Kim Rodibaugh.

In the photo to the left, cheerleader Marie Nagel serves up spirit at the 1996 football breakfast.

Bomber Spirit Shines at RCHS



Senior, Natali Watts, takes a nap after a hard fought basketball game.

Scott Taylor pikes during an inward dive.

Jeremy Wilmington fights for a rebound with a Central Catholic Knight.

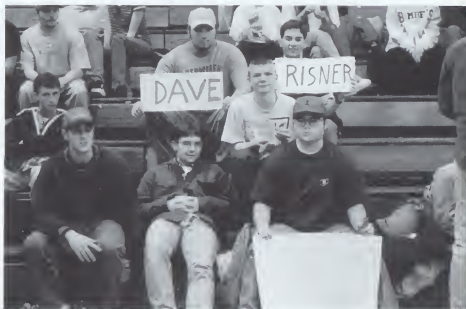
Tonya Tiede sets up for a powerful play.

Kevin Gillespie, Chris Peck, and Justin Wiseman take off for the 200 sprint.





*The cheerleaders and student body cheer on the sectional basketball team.
The women's swim team gets pumped up for a meet.
A group of fans support their favorite player.*



*Tosha Winton practices her putting before a meet.
Bryan McIntyre pushes hard for a cross country victory.
Bomber defense goes for a good kick.*



STUDENT

Students at RCHS did a variety of unusual things from practicing music in garages for a performance like MURF did (right) to visiting Panama to aid needy people (Rita Hurley and Erin McIlwain below). Students also took advantage of the conveniences of nature like those enjoyed by Brandon Reyes (holding bow) and Andy Chapman (on horse). Some students, such as Brenda Johnson, owned exotic pets like her furry friend Wendy the bear.



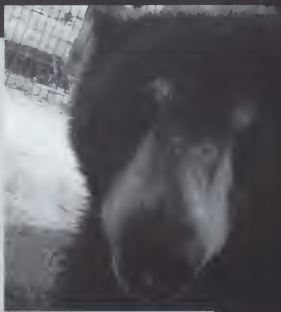
MURF, who was the popular band at RCHS, made an awesome appearance at Funfest. Josh Brown, the multi-fingered bass player, is getting the crowd excited (bottom left). Ben Zimmer, lead singer extraordinaire, works the hostile crowd in the background.



In the photo above Rita Hurley and Erin McIlwain get dirty walking in the jungle of Panama, when they trudge their way to share the Gospel with the natives. (The two went to Panama with a missionary group.)

Equestrian 4-H member Andy Chapman rides his horse in competition.





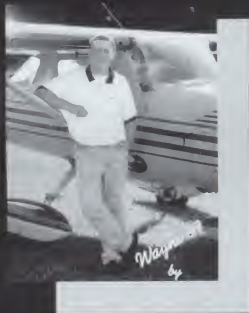
Chad Cooper, who races on the weekends, flies high on his motocross bike (above).

Brandon Reyes is an expert in archery and has won many awards. Here he shows his fundamentally strong technique.

LIFE

Making Their Ways

Jim He moved to Rensselaer from China in 1994. In the picture to the right, he is doing the splits. He possessed quite a talent in flexibility, learning how to do what seems painful at a very young age. Jim expressed himself through these outstanding talents, and he claimed that they help him to deal with anger and stress. He said the pain couldn't be felt with so much anger.



Senior Wayne Cover has an extraordinary talent in that he was flying a plane at the age of seventeen. He received his license at a young age. Attending Purdue University for aviation, Wayne intends on furthering his knowledge of flying and making it a career. His first advantage in aviation school came because he already has his license. Wayne said he enjoys flying because it's what he loves doing the most.

Tara Baunach worked at Dr. Bausman's dentist office. She went to work there everyday during school for a couple of hours as part of her Business Professionals of America class, and really enjoyed her job. Tara planned attending college at Indiana University Purdue University in Gary, where she will pursue a career in dental hygiene. While she attending school she was to continue working for Dr. Bausman.



CHEW

BEEMAN'S

THE ORIGINAL

PEP SIN GUM

CURES
INDIGESTION
AND SEA SICKNESS

ALL OTHERS ARE
IMITATIONS

People

Juniors



juniors took another step toward the pinnacle of R.C.H.S.

during the 1996-97 school year. On the first day principal David Day met with the student body in an assembly to convey the message that "Attitude is Everything." This message stuck with the juniors throughout the 1996-1997 school year, and helped to make it another memorable experience for all. Although

members of the class of 1998 spent the year having a good time, they also had much stress stemming from SAT preparation and furthering their education through college. The juniors impatiently await graduation at the end of next year.

juniors on the football team rule the big, bad fire engine in the homecoming parade. (from left) Chad Pinkerton, Braden Maenbrook, Joe Kosta, Brandon Brown, Andres Schenbert, and Chance Amsler. Kim Smith bags the homecoming queen, or not as she calls her.



Chance Amsler
Kasey Anderson
Jill Austin
Hannah Babb
Bree Bailey
Janel Bailey
Micah Beaver



Picture
Not
Available



Katie Blasky
Kristina Brandenburg
Chris Brenneman
Tom Bretzinger
Brandon Brown
Jessie Brown
Ryan Brown



Cookie Bryant
Adam Buczek
Kristy Burman
Stefanie Byers
Matt Campbell
Greg Cannon
Andy Chapman



Anne Chapman
Sarah Cook
Kim Crynes
Brian Cummings
Karen Darnaby
Jon Davis
Jeff Deardurff



Feature
Not
Available



Q: Which school lunch do you find the most enjoyable?

A: Salisbury Steak, Whipped Potatoes, Roll & Butter, and Milk - Brandon Brown



Q: What do you think are the greatest qualities of the Junior class?

A: Athletics and working together as a team - Star Swan



Question: Have you thought about what you would like to do in the future?

Answer: I would like to major in business entrepreneurship. - Hannah Zimmer



John DeLeon
Tim Dewey
Urian Dobson
Paul Dumas
Robby Dunbar



Jared Easter
Jeremy Eisele
Matt Ekstrom
Chad Ethridge
Brienne Fenwick



Kelly Figley
Brad Fleming
Paul Florence
Brandon Gilbert
Shaun Goad



Chuck Grätner
Curt Hale
Jayce Halligan
Becca Harmer
Aaron Hause



Phil Healey
Isra Hendon
Matt Hoyes
Cathy Ingram
Brandon Johnson



Brenda Johnson
Kristy Kellner
Tracey Killgo
Erin Kingman
Katie Kingman



Jamie Kinnaird
Aaron Knezevic
Lauren Koebecke
Joe Kosta
Jeff Lakin



Matt Lanoue
RaeAnn Lanoue
Joel Leichty
Brian Ludington
Brandon Maienbrook



Meghan Mallory
Meg Marshall
Davina Martin
Jeremy Martin
Diana Mateica

Nevin Matthew
Gary Mattingly
Clint Mattocks
Matt McAleer
Kristen McBride
Mike McCollum
Bryan McIntyre



Scott Miller
Missy Morris
Matt Mullins
Angie Nagel
Deanna Nagel
Josslyn Nagel
Kim Nagel



Marie Nagel
Mark Nagel
Dwayne Northcutt
Lindsay Northcutt
Eric Nowlin
Resa Nussbaum
James Oliver



Jesse Owsley
Dustin Peters
Brian Phegley
Chad Pinkerman
Devin Pitcher
Andy Pittstick
Jennifer Pizer



Nathan Plant
Matt Plett
Mike Potts
Eric Putman
Holly Raff
Athena Refl
Brandon Reyes



Gene Robbins
Julie Robinson
Kim Rodibaugh
Randy Rusk
Ericka Saylor
Ed Schenk
Ryan Schleman



Andrew Schulenburg
John Scott
Angy Scripter
Holly Shearer
Josh Smith
Amy Smith
Maynard Smith

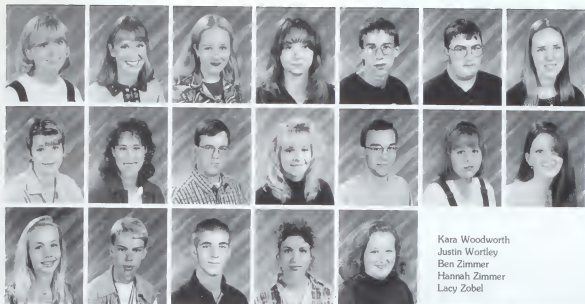


Lance Spangle
Jessica Spencer
Meredith Spicer
Misty St. John
Kyle Standish
Danielle Stone
Shana Streitmatter



Star Swan
Teresa Szabo
Clayton Thompson
Marcus Thornton
Amanda Tow
Nicholas Tycheh
Vince Urbano





Jennifer VonTobel
Rachel Waling
Wendy Walker
Julie Walter
Nick Warfel
Ben Warran
Amanda Wheeler

Amanda Whited
Brooke Wickersham
Bradley Wiltfang
Tosha Winton
Michael Wood
Sarah Wood
Barbara Woodke

Kara Woodworth
Justin Wortley
Ben Zimmer
Hannah Zimmer
Lacy Zobel



Clockwise from upper left: leaving Mr. Potter's American history class (from left to right) Jill Austin, Stephanie Byers, Tim Dewey, Jennifer VonTobel, and Athena Reff; Mr. Rich Stefanich inspires American Studies students who are hard at work taking notes; Cookie Bryant belts another oldie during Leader of the Pack; Lindsay Northcutt chews on a pencil while waiting for inspiration to strike in Mass Communications class; and football player Chance Amsler salivates before mowing down on breakfast victuals provided by da cheerleaders.

Sophomores



sophomores were back again at RCHS in the fall of 1996.

With only two more years left, they were greatly anticipating graduation. During their second run through the high school, the class of '99 not only got respect, but they also made their own mark by expressing themselves in many different ways. Like taking part in the junior inspired The National Planting Day or Camouflage in a Tree Day.

One of the roles for the Class of '99 was to be in the rocking chair between two of the largest classes to pass through the school.

"That's ok," chuckled Brienne Hopkins. "We're the smartest class." As the sophomores make their way up the eastern pole to graduation in 1999, they will be known as the last graduating class of the century.

Mr. Zimney, former advisor of the class, said:



By R. Zimney, former advisor of the Class of '99.

Alex Abel
Tom Alberts
Allison Allie
Garrett Alson
Dan Amsler
Nicole Amsler
Shelly Bailey



Kathy Baker
Amanda Barden
Ashley Baunach
Derek Benakovich
Isaiah Benakovich
Etta Bertram
Dawn Bierman



Nick Black
Craig Blasco
Candy Bower
Kelly Brantner
Pepper Brook
Sarah Brown
Angela Carter



Sean Cawby
Betty Clark
Candace Cook
Megan Critser
Stacie Cross
Chris Crynes
Jodi Daniels



Q&A

Question: Well, you see I don't have my homework because..



Aimee Clouse: "Joby Greene ate it."



Stacy Johns: "Bomber man and Nuclear boy could not help me, they were saving the year-book."



Nathan Schuman: "My doctor doesn't recommend the use of my brain."



Joby Greene: "The seniors ate it."



Carrie Day
Joe Dennis
Chris Dobson
Kim Edwards
Stephanie Farris



Dave Farster
Beth Fish
Mary Jo Frederick
Jessica Fredrick
Dana Garetto



Mahendra Gaud
Brooke Geesa
Heather Geesa
Michelle Gibbs
Amanda Gilbert



Derek Goad
Kasey Goad
Joby Greene
Kelly Gudeman
Lucy Gutwein



Yo Gutwein
Staci Hamstra
Amy Hanewich
Beth Hannon
Jim He



Jessica Hinkle
Heather Hofmeyer
Mary Holodick
Erienne Hopkins
Desiree Hopkins



Joe Hopp
Beth Houston
Chris Hudson
Paul Irwin
Alan James



Kristina Jarrette
Stacy Johns
Stephanie Jordan
Tiffany Jordan
Wendi Joseph



Chris Kellow
Josh Kemp
Matt Kiger
Alex Kingman
Angela Koeboke

Michael Koebeke
 Brandon Lakin
 Jodie Lakin
 Barb Lewis
 Ambyr Lucas
 Jim Luzadder
 Cory Malchow



Tabatha Martin
 Lauren McIntyre
 Lisa McMillan
 Laura Meyers
 Ali Miller
 Katie Mitchell
 Mark Moore



Becky Moore
 Brandi Moorhouse
 Laura Morrical
 Brian Nagel
 Jake Nagel
 Scott Neely
 Shannon Nesius



Kathy Nowell
 Andrea Nussbaum
 Cara Ockermann
 Jatin Patel
 Michelle Pescotto
 Amy Peterson
 Rob Pfaff



Stephanie Plant
 Sara Putt
 Ryan Rayonec
 Brendan Riley
 David Risner
 Justin Roberts
 Jason Robinson



Kristina Russel
 Amanda Sargent
 Nathan Schleman
 Jason Scott
 Mark Slade
 Deanna Souders
 Tiffany Stalbaum



Amanda Stone
 Brandi Stone
 Sarah Stone
 Jr. Studer
 Ethan Stuff
 Jenny Swope
 Beth Tatlock



Jessica Taulman
 Josh Taylor
 Luke Tillett
 Charlie Todd
 Tonya Turner
 Neenah
 VanBlaircom
 Taunia Vigeant



Andrea Virok
 Kelly Vogt
 Susan Wakeland
 Libby Weston
 Kristin Wickert
 Jennifer Wicks
 Dede Wiener





David Williams
Holly Wing
Justin Wiseman
Chad Witherington

Ms. Amy Scamerhorn is eagerly teaching the sophomore level Spanish class new things.



Jatin Patel contorts himself to reach low for a save in a match for the boys' tennis team.



The first semester, sixth hour sophomore English class listens hard as Mr. Dan Kellow shares what he "nose" about Cyrano De Berengrac.



Mr. Zimmer's first hour class is studying hard on rocks and minerals.

Freshmen



On August 20, 1996 the Freshman Class of 2000 started high

school with 169 students the largest class to enter RCHS. The *Chaos* went around the school asking freshmen how they liked high school so far.

Leslie Kennedy said, "I like the ten minutes before school, because it gives me time to talk to my friends."

Alli-ha Harper added, "It's a lot of fun, with a lot of new faces, and challenges, and you get treated more like adults."

Ray Yeoman simply said, "You get a lot more rights."

With a positive attitude, the youngest bunch of Bombers started off to a



dandy year.

Learning the RCHS computer system, Ryan Stanley practices his typing skills.

Mr. William Oates' first semester English class listens hard to a stimulating lecture.

Michael Aichner
Adam Alson
Joshua Anselm
Rayne Arnett
Amber Baggerly
Joseph Bailey
Sarah Bailey



Andy Blasky
Myranda Braun
Kelli Bridges
Mark Brouwer
Allen Burns
Heather Byers
Wade Campbell



Nicole Cannon
April Carr
Megan Casey
Rachel Clark
Brandon Conley
Jonathan Cooper
Jared Courtney



Sara Cummings
Kyle Curtis
Brad Daniels
Shannon Daniels
Kristen Darnaby
Justin Davis
Risha Davis



What do you
want to do
after high
school?



"Go to college and major in music theory."
—Nicole Howell—



"Make life fun and interesting, be happy all the time and get a good paying job." —Tim Yenna—



"Go to college, what I want to be is undecided"
—Todd Tillotta—



"Go to college and be a pharmacist." —Lindsey Jefferies—



Brian Delaney
Darci Donnelly
Julie Dresher
Andy Earnest
Mike Edwards



Michelle Filson
Cassy Frazee
Ryan Geren
Mike Gibbs
Missy Gilbert



Kevin Gillespie
Christa Goodman
Nick Gorney
Jody Graf
Mike Gross



Jon Hale
Brian Hannon
Rebekah Hansen
Josh Hardin
Sarah Hardin



Alisha Harper
Brandon Hatfield
Lisa Hause
Nathan Hornbeck
Nicki Howell



Trisha Huhn
Tonya Igloe
Lindsay Jeffries
Debbie Jennings
Kim Joseph



Justin Kanney
Morgan Keiper
Leslie Kennedy
Amanda Kerkes
Heather Kidd



Kyle Kolhagen
Brett Kosanovich
Erin Kosta
Lori Lane
Jamie Lewis



Brandon Lockridge
Joey Lucas
Dennis Luchene
Julie Luttrell
James Luttrell

Amber Luzadder
Daron Lynch
Heather Lyons
Heath Malone
Angela Manns
January Marlett
Haney Marlin



Nycole Martin
Stacey Martin
Tom Martin
Levi Mattingly
Amber Mattocks
Michelle Mattocks
Kim McCellan



Jen Mikula
Michelle Miller
Jamie Minix
Kari-Jean Mitchell
Elizabeth Morris
Mike Morrison
Eric Nagel



Kyle Nagel
Nicole Nagel
Cassie Norrington
Michael Osterfeld
Travis Owsley
Christopher Peck
Selina Peterson



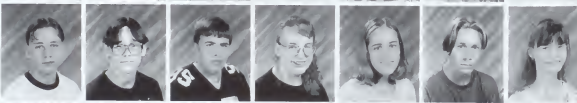
Matt Pizer
Anna Poppen
Danielle Pruett
Jamie Pucka
Brandy Putman
Kristen Putt
Ian Quarry



Nick Randolph
Bryan Rodibaugh
Maria Rodriguez
Luke Sayers
Sarah Saylor
Robin Schneidt
Jason Schultz



Josh Scott
Josh Selby
David Shanley
Krista Shelhart
Amy Shide
Tom Siebert
Christy Sipkema



Chris Smith
Krissy Smith
Meeghan Smith
Tristan Snyder
Chris Spurr
Amanda St. John
Ryan Standish



Ryan Stanley
Jarod Steffen
Seth Streitmatter
Charlie Swartzell
Brittany Sweeney
Christina Teske
Kara Tiede





Senem Tig
Courtney Tillotta
Todd Tillotta
Peter Tychek
Scott Walker
Patty Wheeldon
Jennifer Whitaker

Candice Wilkerson
Pat Williams
Jill Wiltfang
Josh Wireman
Annie Wood
Ashley Wood
Tara Wood

Kenny Wright
Kristy Wright
Ryan Wright
Chris Yenna
Tim Yenna
Ray Yeoman
Adam Zachek



Kevin Zacher
Joe Zicherl



Parlez vous, Freshê? Patty Wheeldon, Kelli Bridges, Sarah Saylor, and Michelle Filson practice for a trip to another year of French.

Freshmen Jenn Mikula, Erin Kosta, Kari-Jean Mitchell, Tara Wood, Mark Brouwer, Kyle Nagel get a little closer in the library during eighth hour.

Faculty



attitude is
Every-
thing
That state-
ment is
the 1996-1997 school
year theme. On the first
day of school the entire
student body had a talk
with Mr. Day about at-
titudes. All the teachers
focused on getting the
students to understand
that attitude is every-
thing. Also, every
teacher received a po-
em about attitudes,
which most posted in
their rooms.

During the 1996-97
school year RCHS re-
ceived two new young
teachers, who had a
lot to bring to our
school: Miss Amy
Scamerhorn taught
Spanish I, II, and

speech. Mr. Sam Cox
taught woods, design
and drafting. Everyone
at Rensselaer was very
appreciative of their
presence.

The teachers at RCHS
kept very busy. Several
teachers not only teach
but also coach an extra
curricular activity. They
are here before school
helping out students,
and often stay after
school. The teachers
schedules are very full
with their own lives and
families. Many teachers
have experienced excit-
ing life changes in their
lives during the 1996-97
school year. Over the
summer Mr. Wamsley
got married, and the
McKinleys had a baby.

Mr. Taii enjoys a busy day of work at RCHS.



Linda Anderson
Jan Benner
Steve Brandenburg
Shirley Bretzinger
Betty Briggs
Walt Brown
Terry Butler



Lynn Clark
Sam Cox
David Day
Jim Earnest
Shelley Foister
Deanna George
Bob Hainje



Dori Hancock
Deb Hanson
Josh Hauser
Heather Heinig
Jill Henady
Janet Herre
Marian Horazy



Brenda Johnson
Melinda Johnson
Maureen Jungblut
Dan Kellow
Lynn Kiger
Janet Kingman
Tom Landrum





Jerry Mc Kim
Douglass Mc Kinley
Aimee Mc Kuhen
Chris Meeks
Nancy Messman
Vicky Nagel
Luetta Nussbaum

Charlesa Olson
John Potter
Chris Risner
Tom Ryan
Amy Scamerorn
Bill Oates
Linda Schenk

Kelly Spurgeon
Jane Swartzell
Charles Tait
Meta Waling
Ron Wamsley
Kathy Ward
Bill Zimmer



Dr. Ryan teaches the students while on the move.

Mrs. Swartzell teaches her sophomores the skills of writing.



"Assume the position."
— Mr. Meeks -

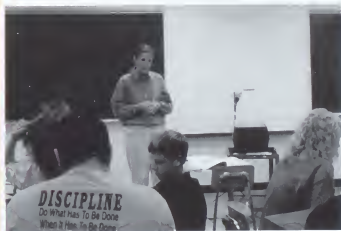


"Music is more than notes and rhythms it comes from the heart."
— Mr. Mc Kinley



Mr. Cox helps his students learn to draft.

Miss Scamerhorn watches her speech class as they work in groups.



A Big Thank You to Ralph Harsha

Mr. Ralph Harsha gave thirty-three years of his life working at the Rensselaer Central High School and decided that the spring of 1997 would be his last year. Mr. Harsha did many projects and helped out in many areas of the school and usually was not given the recognition for his hard work in keeping the school looking its friendly and clean self.

Future plans for Mr. Harsha included relaxing a little, but mostly he will be working at his campground, Little Creek, after retirement from the Rensselaer Central High School Corporation. Thank you, Ralph, for everything; the staff and student body wish you the best of luck.

Pictured in the photo to the right Mr. Ralph Harsha takes a break from working with his big box of tools to get a picture taken. In the photo below, Mr. Harsha stands with past and present co-workers.





Organizations

Chaos, BTV...

Chad Cooper works on BTV and Scott Taylor is hard at work on the Rensselaerian, while Tim Warran and Ryan Wakefield offer their assistance.

The Staff

Pictured from left to right:

(back row)
 Angela Manns
 Michelle Miller
 Stephanie Plant
 Chad Cooper
 David DelPrincipe
 Tim Brown
 Jeff Goad
 Chance Amsler
 Lindsey Northcutt
 Ryan Brown
 Erin Kingman
 Paul Dumas
 Erin McIlwain
 Ryan Wakefield
 Tonya Tiede
 Chasity Sizemore

(middle row)
 Rita Hurley
 Brienne Hopkins
 Eric Nowlin
 Kara Woodworth
 Marie Nagel
 Megan Bailey
 Jenny Dill
 Brandi Moorhouse

(front row)
 Eileen Blasky
 Scott Taylor
 Resa Nussbaum
 Hannah Zimmer
 Mr. Bill Oates
 Jenny Swope

(Not pictured)
 Brittany Sweeney
 Natali Watts
 Kristy Tiede
 Jeremy Wilmington
 Tim Warran
 Candice Wilkerson



Rensselaerian

Mass communications has two periods, first and eighth, and the news outlets, Chaos, BTV, and the Rensselaerian, cover every major event at RCHS. Communications tries to give everyone equal representation and coverage in all areas of media.

The school year 1996-97 was saturated with new technology for Bomber-Vision in its first "studio" season. BTV picked up a new monitor, VCR's, microphones, and a mixing board, so it was able to give daily announcements. The

Chaos was still the RCHS yearbook in its 81st edition and the students put it all together with adviser Bill Oates. Staff members attempted to give credit to everyone in the school.

The Rensselaerian, the school newspaper, came out monthly. Covering sports, clubs, special events, and other hot topics, everyone in the classes shared the responsibility of writing. Things were a little difficult with only three veterans on the staff, but with a wholesome effort from most, everything worked out beautifully.

Marie Nagel and Kara Woodworth deliver the most exciting announcements, while Chad Cooper handles the technical duties.



Once again, the Mass Communications staff is making sure things get done on the Rensselaerian and Chaos.

The Chaos staff enjoys an educational and exciting day at the N.S.P.A./J.E.A. convention in Chicago.

Building Trades

Building trades students during the 1996-97 school year constructed a different model home than they usually build, a duplex rather than a house. A duplex consists of two units in one building. One of the units was to be completed by the end of May 1997, and the second unit of the duplex was expected to be done in March of the following year.

The thirty-three individuals working on this project were divided up into three different class

periods, each lasting two periods. The students enrolled in the building trades program included juniors and seniors who are interested in the construction field. They started from the basics like reading a tape measure and worked all the way through putting up trusses and shingling the roof. It is very possible to find one of these students in a construction crew in the future.

Chris Brenneman puts in some fiberglass insulation.



*Dave Goodman and Jeff Ploughe make a precise measurement.
Isra Hendon makes good effort to hit that nail.*



The Foundation of the Next Generation

Team Members:

Periods: 1 & 2

Bruce Culbreth

Bert Daniels

Rebecca Hamer

Vernon Hammersley

Gary Mattingly

Aaron Parrish

Brian Phegley

Eric Phegley

Julie Robinson

Periods: 5 & 6

Ray Bower

Craig Clouse

JR Harrington

Isra Hendon

Jeremy Love

Nick Martin

Matt Mullins

James Oliver

Chad Pinkerman

Jeff Ploughe

Tim Warren

Scott Williams

Periods: 7 & 8

Chris Brenneman

Aaron Brewer

Brad Fleming

Matthew Hoyes

Adam Johns

Chris Moorhouse

Dwayne Northcutt

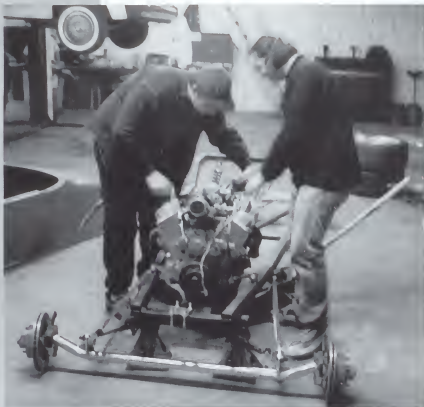
Brandon Roberts

Christopher Robinson

Maynard Smith

*At top of this page Adam Johns screws a good one into the dry wall.
To the left Scott Williams assists Jeff Ploughe in making an accurate cut.*

VICA



VICA members adjust the carburetor a little to enhance performance.

In the photo in the photo center trainer Ken Hickman shares some of his knowledge with the student trainers.

Top Row (from left): Aaron Kineczic, Chad Ehridge, Justin Bell, Ryan Schleman, Colin Eshleman, Kurt Hale, Derek Harden, Scott Daniels, J.R. Harrington, and Andy Pistick

Bottom Row (from left): Gene Robbins, Jason Greer, Jim Luzzader, Rob Dunbar, Jeremy Love, Brandon Gilbert, Jeff Ploughe, and director Walt Brown



Athletic Trainers

The Vica organization is one that gives students a chance to get a better understanding for engines and mechanical work. The organization will raffle off a '350 Chevy engine and they will sell a car that they have built. The class projects included building the engine and making the 1927 Ford Roadster replica. The project will be used to fund future projects.

The Student Athletic Trainers were in their second year of organization. Trainer Ken Hickman instructs the class and gives them a better understanding for athletic training. Every student was encouraged to help Mr. Hickman with at least one athletic event during the school year to further their knowledge in the field of athletic training.

Below: Trainer Ken Hickman uses Alex Abel as an example of correct procedures on an injured athlete during a Student Athletic Trainers meeting.



Top Row (L to R):

Matt Kiger, John Scott, Joe Kosta, Cindy Balvich, Kim Nagel, Ben Standish, and Brad Shide.

Middle Row (L to R):

Justin Roberts, Phil Healey, Brandon Maenbrook, Brandon Brown, Brandy Kizer

Bottom Row (L to R):

Garret Alson, James Oliver, Amy Clouse, Stacey Johns, Alex Abel, Stephanie Jordan.

FFA Enjoys Another Busy Year.

The members of FFA had an enjoyable and busy 1996-97. One of the busiest times of the year for the organization is FFA Week. During this time they had a tractor drive-in day when students drive their tractors to school. Another event was the faculty breakfast, which was cooked and prepared by FFA members. The purpose was to tell the teachers and staff thanks for all of their support. The group also

held a petting zoo for all of the young students in the community. The members also had a program called Food for America, where the FFA members went to the elementary schools with pizza and described the origin of each ingredient and how it relates to FFA. Among their other activities, FFA also participated in many judging contests. They also gave many speeches and demonstrations for different audiences.



A visitor has fun playing with and holding the baby chickens.

To the right Erin Kingman and Resa Nussbaum check out the calf at the petting zoo.



During FFA week, Aimee Clouse makes the pony look great for all of the visitors who will be stopping by the ag shop at the petting zoo.

Lori Kohlhausen gets some helpful advice from her older brother, Ryan Kohlhausen, just before the annual FFA banquet.



FFA members include

Andy Pitstick
Barb Lewis
Matt Mitchell
Lori Kohlhausen
Aaron Parrish
Brad Hanewich
Stef Byers
Nicole Amsler
Brad Wiltfang
Amy Gastineau
Robin Schneidt
Jill Wiltfang
Trisha Huhn
Jodie Lakin
Laura Morrical
Michelle Filson
Candace Cook
Kenny Wright
Leslie Kennedy
Nathan Schleman
Jake Nagel
Vernon Hammersly
Kyle Kohlhausen
Jason Robinson
Ron Wamsley
John DeLeon
Pete Tychek
Ray Yeoman
Ryan Schleman
Amy Hanewich
Yo Gutwein
Steph Faris
Kevin Zacher
Josh Wireman
Nick Tychek



Art Club

The Art Club consisted of many talented students in a variety of art media. In a quote from Mrs. Spurgeon she tells just how important the Art Club is to our school. "The Art Club is a group of creative people who do artistic work around the school. They have painted quotes in the wrestling room and a back drop for Bomber Vision. We are proud of our school and we try to display our students talents around the building."

Students and visitors appreciated the decorative drawings and paintings, which make the hallways attractive and colorful.



John Leathers poses with one of his art works.

Front Row (from right)
Myranda Braun
Justin Wiseman
Charlie Granter
April Carr
Deanna Souders

second row (from right)
Heather Byers
JR Studer
Bree Bailey
Sean Goad
John Leathers

third row (from right)
Keith VanWeinen
Matt Plett
Bus Gutwein
Tom Bretzinger



Community Service

The 1996-97 school year was the first for the Community Service Club. Club members participated in many different activities such as sponsoring a child and buying him toys, because he would not otherwise receive very much for Christmas. The club also helped to publicize community blood drives by hanging up posters around the area, as well as going during the summer to help at a

camp for problem children. The members of the club also were pages for the state capital.

In order to increase their treasury for activities, the club held a fund raiser by having the student body vote for what kind of music they wanted to listen to at Fun Fest. As an idea started by Ed Schenk and Mr. Jim Earnest, the club could take pride in what it did for the school and the community.



Community Service Club rallies for another meeting in hope to do the community well.

Ed Schenk converses with the other members about their next activity.

Student Council 1996-1997

Student Council started their year out with planning Homecoming events. The 1996 festivities consisted of a parade followed by an indoor pep-rally with guest speaker (former Chicago Bear) Ron Rivera. The next council sponsored event was a visit by the Care Center occupants, who were brought on a tour of the high school and were entertained by the choir. In the fall Student Council donated a Thanksgiving dinner to a needy family. Caroling was a new winter activity, and members visited places such as the hospital, day care centers, St. Augustine's kindergarten

class and the CDC. Also during winter the school was decorated for Christmas and the council awarded Mr. Bomber to Eric Gross. Several members attended the annual state convention at Lawrence Central High School, where RCHS was honor council for the sixth year in a row.

Spring events for council included the annual CDC visit, Fun Fest, and the new spring dance. The group was busy as it had been in past years. New activities and services helped to show the productivity Student Council offered to the high school and community.



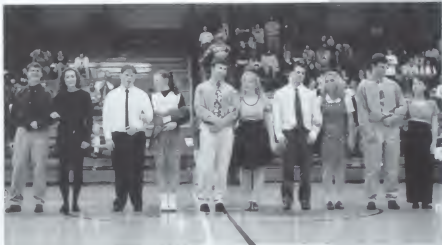
Students take Rensselaer Care Center patients on a tour of the school.

In the center photo, council members contemplate a decision for Fun Fest.

Santa Clause and many cheerful Student Council members sing carols.



Mr. Bomber candidates and escorts (from left: Christopher Louek & Erin McIlwain, Eric Gross & Heather Ney, Adam Johns and Erin Cain, Dave DelPrincipe & Megan Bailey, and Ben Standish & Steph Gish) await the final decision on who will be Mr. Bomber which was voted on by the student body.



The 1996-97 RCHS Student Council take action.

Student Council 1996-1997

top row (from left)

Matt Zacek
Brienne Hopkins
Jessica Fredricks
Jatin Patel
Bret Kosanovich
Alex Kingman
Luke Tillett
Jeff Goad

middle row

Kim Rodibaugh
Hannah Zimmer
Brooke Wickersham
Scott Taylor
Resa Nussbaum
Kristy Tiede
Chasity Sizemore
Mike Sitz
Ryan Wakefield

bottom row

Andy Chapman
Lacy Zobel
Rebekah Hansen
Lindsay Jeffries
Annie Wood
Lisa Scherb



Well on the Way

Senior Health Occupations student Cindy Balvich checks out a specimen sample at Jasper County Hospital. With experiences like these she'll have plenty of medical knowledge with her on the job site.

1996-97 Health Occupations

(front row from left)

Megan Alson
Tiffany Turner
Steph Gish
Cindy Balvich
Sarah Cook

(row two)

Jessica Spenser
Amanda Tow
Nicole Hahn
Kelly Figley
Theresa Szabo
Brandy Kizer
Deanna Nagel



HEALTH OCCUPATIONS

Health Occupations appeared to be one of the most beneficial hands on classes available at RCHS. This class shared, made aware, and prepared students going into the health field. This class consisted of 24 eager kids from not only RCHS, but also KV and North Newton.

After introduction to health class was taken, the following year students were eligible to take Health Occupations. The first semester

consisted of a background on body systems. In the second semester, depending on the field of interest, the student was able to work and train right on the job site. They were free to choose from the hospital or care center to privately owned dentists and doctors. This class was definitely a challenging step toward the future but these students knew what it takes to be a success.

Cindy Balvich proves herself to an actual patient during her dental hygiene studies.



Sarah Cook observes the different tools used at our local hospital.

Stephanie Gish helps out with breakfast at the Jasper County Hospital.

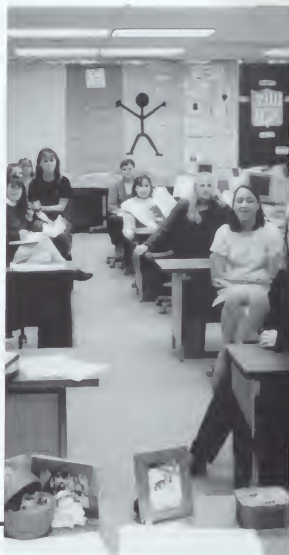
BPA

During the 1996-97 school year the Business Professionals of America kept very busy, taking part in several different activities. They spend two hours in the class room everyday. They used that time to prepare for skills they will apply to the "real world" after graduation. For some seniors the class helped them get a job with skills useful in the future. The class takes a lot of time and work before and after school.

From the beginning of the year they prepared

for state contest. The entire BPA year was captured in their yearbook. The contest was held in Indianapolis as a three day event. The students competed with other students from the north-western part of Indiana. They spent a lot of time doing fundraising (like selling suckers) to pay for the contest. The students usually place in the top ten.

BPA also stayed very busy helping out during the year both at RCHS and around the community.



Megan Marshall gets ready for a "professional look"

The BPA class takes make-up tips from Mrs. Aimee McKuhen.



"Tomorrow's business leaders"



In the center picture, Daniele Schneidt gives a report to her classmates.

In the photo to the right, Angie Nagel makes herself a better looking business professional.

Daniele Schneidt conducts an in depth discussion with fellow Business Professionals.



The 1996-97 BPA: (back row from left) Tonya Todd, Heather Chamness, Tracey Kilgo, Kim Crynes, Billie Jean Huff, Daniele Schneidt, Tara Baunach, Chasity Sizemore; and (front row) Miss McKuhen, Angie Scriptor, Kristen McBride, Jennifer Von Tobel, Megan Marshall, Angie Nagel, and Theresa Williams.

B.A.D.D.

B.A.D.D. (center)

first row
Greg Cannon
Bryan McIntyre
Micah Beaver
Matt Plett
Sarah Wood
Kara
Woodworth
Brianna Fenwick
Jesse Brown
Lindsay
Northcutt
Nevin Mathew
Paul Dumas
Holly Sinar
Tara Baunach

second row
Sarah Cook
Casey Anderson
Katie Blasky
Star Swan
Holly Raff
Christina
Brandenburg
Andrew
Schulenberg
Matt Campbell
Kasey Goad
Derek Goad
Ben Zimmer
Dave
Delprincipe

third row
Jill Austin
Machel Floyd
Lauren
McIntyre
Ashley Baunach
Libby Weston
Holly Wing
Andrea
Nussbaum
Tim Warran
Melissa
Saulmon
John Davis
Brian
Cummings

fourth row
Kelly Figley

Amanda Whited
Brenda Johnson
Susan Wakeland
Andrea Virok
Kelly Gudeman
Kara Ockerman
DeDe Wiener
John Hale
Kelly Braniner
Beth Houston

fifth row
Amanda
Sargeant
Wendi Joseph
Brandy Stone
Jodi Daniels
Erin Kingman
Meredith Spicer
Kathy Baker
Tim Brown
Megan Alson
Rita Hurley
Cindy Balvich
Stacie Brantner
Lisa Scherb

F.C.S. (left)

first row
Billie Huff
Sarah Stone
Krissey Smith
Candice
Wilkerson

second row
Lana
Whitcotton
Kathy Wienrank
Danielle Pruitt
Laura Meyers
Rita Hurley
Erin McIlwain

third row
Matt Drain
Andy Earnest
Josh Taylor
Ed Schenk
Alan James
Josh Sayers

The Fellowship of Christian Students take time out of their school day and share a little kindness with the elementary students at Monnett, when the big kids help the little kids fill Easter baskets.

Media assistant Lana Whitcotton helps Davina Martin at the counter in the library.



F.C.S.

MEDIA ASSISTANTS

The Media Assistants devoted their study hall time to help out in the library. They ran the circulation desks, which included checking in and checking out books. They also prepared the movies and projectors for the classes. Some new editions to the library during 1996-97 included the new multi-media computers and the book club.

Headed by Mr. Sam Cox, the Fellowship of Christian Students met every Tuesday morning before school. FCS did many things to help the community. On Thanksgiving they bought meals for five families and included a Bible with each meal.

At Christmas they collected winter coats and carolled at the Care Center, as well as teaming up with BPA to buy Christmas presents for a needy family in Remington.

Bombers Against Drinking and Drugs was led by Mrs. Marian Horazy and Mr. Josh Hauser. Some of their activities included decorating the halls with anti-drug posters during Red Ribbon Week. They also passed out drug hotline cards, watched a movie on drugs and their effect on infants, and made posters for the Colts vs. Rensselaer all-stars game (the proceeds went to the D.A.R.E. program.)



The RCHS Media Assistants: (front row from left) Mrs. Deanna George, January Marlatt, Katie Mitchell, Megan Crisler, Kelly Brantner, Kathy Wienrank, and Lana Whitecotton; and (back row) Brad Shide, Josh Sayers, John Leathers, and Chris Spurr.

Sunshine

The Sunshine Society had a fun-filled year, participating in many activities including the Sunshine dance, "A Midnight Stroll." The hard working ladies' organization spent long hard hours building and decorating for the annual dance, which included a real water fountain and trees made out of bal

loons. Everyone enjoyed the decorations and had a great time.

The ladies' group also participated in various activities to better the community. Sponsor Kelly Spurgeon said, "We had a hard working group of officers and executive board, which made all activities enjoyable and exciting."



Sophomore Princess Aimee Clouse crowns Queen Natali Watts.

Sunshine members, Katie Blasky, Jennifer Pizer, and Bree Bailey, serve breakfast to Mr. Robert Hainje during Homecoming week.

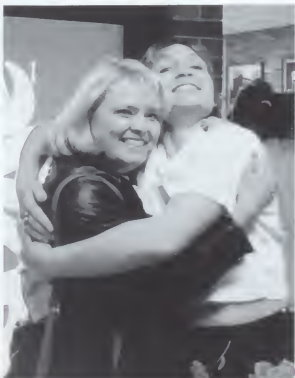
Sunshine member Lauren Koebeke hugs her Ideal Lady Mrs. Susan Darnaby (far right).





Sunshine Dance Queen and Court: Junior Princess Kristina Brandenburg, Freshman Princess Lindsey Jeffries, Queen Natali Watts, Sophomore Princess Aimee Clouse, and Senior Princess Sarah Taulman.

Entomologist Dr. Tom Turpin shares cooked meal worms with Daddy Mutch Ockerman.



Sunshine Queen Natali Watts

Sunshine Members

The Sunshine members had a busy 1996-97 school year. They cooked breakfast for the teachers during homecoming week, sang Christmas carols at the Care Center, and sent presents to the faculty during Teacher Appreciation Week. They also provided nights of entertainment for their parents with "Daddy Date Night" and the "Mother Daughter Tea." Sunshine ended its year with the annual "Ideal Lady Night" when each girl revealed the ideal lady she had chosen for the year.

Executive Board: (first row from left) Star Swan, Eileen Blasky, Rachel Walling, Katie Blasky, Janel Bailey, Bree Bailey; (second row) Holly Shearer, Jill Austin, Stacey Long, Danelle Schneidt, Nikki Virok, Jenny Nystrom; and (third row) Amy Shide, Maria Rodriguez, Jill Wilfang, Andrea Virok, Susan Wakeland, Amber Lucas, Kristina Russell.

Seniors: (first row from left) Amber Daniels, Kristel Miller, Tanya Wright, Katina Marlin, Cindy Balvich, Megan Bailey, Natali Watts, Tonya Tiede, Maria Acevedo, Stephanie Gish, Sarah Taulman, Jennifer Mercer; (second row) Holly Sinar, Tara Baunach, Jenny Dill, Erin McIlwain, Megan Alson, Stacie Brantner, Machel Floyd, Jenny Nystrom, Theresa Williams, Kristy Tiede; (third row) Eileen Blasky, Heather Ney, Audrey Gorney, Tiffany Turner, Beth Jordan, Rena Johnson, Tina Wright, Nikki Virok, Tiffany Giramonti, Christina Lane, Billie Huff; (fourth row) and Tiffany Copley, Vanessa Selby, Lisa Scherb, Heather Chamness, Stacey Long, Daniele Schneidt, Sheri Luzadder-Dinga, Heather Selby, Chasity Sizemore, Melissa Saulman.





Juniors: (first row from left) Jamie Kinnaird, Tosha Winton, Sarah Wood, Kara Woodworth, Jessica Brown, Brooke Wickersham, Lindsey Northcutt, Brianne Fenwick, Amanda Tow, Meredith Spicer; (second row) Missy Morris, Hannah Babb, Sarah Cook, Kasey Anderson, Resa Nussbaum, Marie Nagel, Josslyn Nagel, Karen Darnaby, Kim Nagel, Holly Shearer, Meghan Mallory; (third row) Cookie Bryant, Julie Walters, Bree Bailey, Janel Bailey, Katie Blasky, Lauren Koebcke, Lacey Zobel, Barb Woodke, Erica Saylor, Kristy Burman, Anne Chapman, Erin Kingman; (fourth row) Jill Austin, Rachel Waling, Raeann Lanoue, Hannah Zimmer, Kristina Brandenburg, Star Swan, Holly Raff, Kim Rodibaugh, Jennifer VonTobel, Kristen McBride; and (fifth row) Misty St. John, Amanda Wheeler, Kristy Kellner, Brenda Johnson, Kelly Phigley, Wendy Walker, Amanda Whited, Teresa Szabo, and Katie Kingman.



Sophomores: (first row from left) Stephanie Jordan, Aimee Clouse, Stacey Johns, Andrea Nussbaum, Sara Putt, Stacey Hamstra, Tabatha Martin, Ambyr Lucas, Lauren McIntire, Tonya Turner, Beth Hannon, Holly Wing; (second row) Jessica Fredrick, Ashley Baumach, Kathy Baker, Shannon Nesius, Becky Moore, Jessica Taulman, Jodi Lakin, Brienne Hopkins, Allison Allie, Sarah Brown; (third row) Beth Houston, Kasey Goad, Stephanie Faris, Libby Weston, Angela Koebcke, Susan Wakeland, Megan Critser, Beth Tatlock, Danielle Frazee, Tiffany Stalbaum; (fourth row) Jodie Daniels, Brandy Stone, Neenah VanBlaircom, Amanda Barton, Ali Miller, Wendy Joseph, Pepper Brock, Heather Geesa, Amanda Sergeant, Beth Fish; (fifth row) Kelly Gudeman, Brooke Geesa, Kristina Jarrette, Dana Garetto, Candy Bower, Andrea Virok, Kristina Russell, Kristin Wickert, Laura Meyers, Katie Mitchell; (sixth row) Nicole Amster, Amanda Stone, Shelley Bailey, Lisa McMillan, Michelle Gibbs, Dawn Bierman, Heather Hoffmeyer, Kelly Vogt, Angela Carter, Jenny Swope; and (seventh row) Kelly Branter, Amy Hanewich, Candace Cook, Dede Weiner, Cara Ockerman, Desiree Hopkins, Amy Peterson, Tiffany Jordan, and Lucy Gutwein.



Freshmen: (first row from left) Sara Cummings, Erin Kosta, Lindsey Jeffries, April Carr, Krissy Smith, Jamie Minix, Michelle Mattocks, Michelle Miller, Kari-Jean Mitchell, Myranda Braun, Candi Wilkerson; (second row) Amanda Robbins, Kristy Wright, Danielle Pruitt, Brandy Putman, Melissa Gilbert, Krista Shelhart, Meghan Smith, Sarah Bailey, Jennifer Mikula, Nicole Nagel, Debbie Jennings, Alicia Harper; (third row) Jill Wiltfang, Jodie Graff, Tricia Huhn, Darci Donnelly, Kelli Bridges, Julie Dresher, Amber Baggerly, Anna Poppin, Megan Casey, Krissy Darnaby; (fourth row) Ashley Wood, Jamie Pucka, Amanda Kerkes, Maria Rodriguez, Christina Teske, Jana Marlatt, Amy Shide, Rebekah Hansen, Annie Wood; and (fifth row) Amanda St. John, Nicole Howell, Amber Lutzader, Sarah Hardin, Heather Byers, Tristan Snyder, Nicole Martin, Kim McClellen, Jennifer Whitaker, Heather Lyons, Courtney Tilletta, and Leslie Kennedy.

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society seems to be growing every year. This organization is made up of Juniors and Seniors who have been chosen to participate in the Rensselaer chapter. Twenty-seven new members were inducted during the 1996-97 school year, which is larger than any previous year. The new officers were president Marie Nagel, vice-president Kristina Brandenburg, treasurer Barbara Woodke, and secretary Cookie Bryant. Members elected in 1997

include: Amy Gastineau, Lana Whitecotton, Bree Bailey, Janel Bailey, Micah Beaver, Katie Blasky, Kristina Brandenburg, Cookie Bryant, Kristy Burman, Andy Chapman, Anne Chapman, Aaron Hause, Lauren Koebecke, Brandon Maienbrook, Clint Mattocks, Bryan McIntyre, Kim Nagel, Marie Nagel, Devin Pitcher, Matt Plett, Kim Rodibaugh, Ed Schenk, Misty St. John, Julie Walter, Barbara Woodke, Justin Wortley, and Lacy Zobel.



In the top photo, Desire Hopkins works with Amy Gastineau at an academic meet. National Honor Society Seniors: (back row) Scott Taylor, Christopher Louck, Adam Barton, Ted Hoover, Erin McIlwain, and Tiffany Copley; and (front) Heather Ney, Eileen Blasky, Kathy Weinrank, Michelle Ringen, and Rena Johnson. 1996-97 Spellbow! Team Members: Michah Beaver, Rob Pfaff, Ed Schenk, Christopher Louck, Lana Whitecotton, Janel Bailey, Kristina Russell, Amy Peterson, Desire Hopkins, and Jennifer Mercer.

Spellbowl and Academic Teams

The 1996-97 academic and spellbowl teams were both sponsored by Mrs. Heather Heinig. The spellbowl team was made up of 10 students ranging from sophomores to seniors. This dedicated team spent mornings and afternoons preparing for their meets which proved to be very successful. The spellers made a great showing by advancing to the state level, and defeating one of their largest rivals, North Judson.

The Academic Team also had a very successful year. The social studies and mathematics teams advanced to the state levels. The two squads came home with second and fifth place honors.



The 1996-97 Academic Superbowl Team: Lauren Koebeke, Micah Beaver, Lacy Zobel, Andy Chapman, Ed Schenk, Anne Chapman, Kristy Burman, Andrea Virok, Devin Pitcher, and Janel Bailey.

The 1996-97 Academic Superbowl Team: Tob Pfaff, Adam Alson, Christopher Louck, Lana Whitecotton, Rena Johnson, Tina Wright, Amy Peterson, Tom Bretzinger, Amy Gasteineau, Kristina Russell, Kathy Weinrank, Jennifer Mercer, and Desiree Hopkins.

Science Olympiad

The 1997 Science Olympiad team worked on their events after school and continued to work hard in order to place in the Saint Joseph's College Science Olympiad Regional, where they received second place. They also finished the year second in the small schools division. The members below attended the Saint Joseph's Regional.

In the photo to the right, Christopher Louck works on his Science Olympiad project to place at St. Joseph College Regionals.

*Science Olympiad
(front row from left)*

Kristina Russell
Micah Beaver
Rena Johnson
Andrea Virok
Cookie Bryant

(back row)
Christopher Louck
Ed Schenk
Devin Pitcher
Lacey Zobel
Desi Hopkins
Jamie Pucka



Pioneerz

The 1997 Pioneerz club was a service minded organization promoting healthy life styles. They had retreats to bond and plan for activities. One of their important tasks was to visit the middle school to talk about drugs, schools, role models, and peer pressure. They also participated in the D.A.R.E program. Other

schools participated in the retreats and community projects, such as handing out information during the county fair and Little Cousin Jasper Festival. Tri-County, Kankakee Valley, and RCHS students made a joint effort to educate the younger community. Teachers as well as guidance counselors helped Pioneerz.

The Pioneerz get together at a retreat at Camp Buffalo with Rensselaer, Tri-County, and Kankakee Valley students participating.

Dr. Tom Ryan draws a diagram to improve students' thinking skills.



The 1996-97 Pioneerz: (top row from left) Chance Amsler, Eric Nowlin, Matt Plett, Clint Mattock, Vince Urbano, Devin Pitcher; (center row) Kim Rodibaugh, Tara Baunach, Hannah Babb, Cindy Balvich, Rebecca Hamer; and (front row) Holly Shearer, Resa Nussbaum, Marie Nagel, Sarah Wood, and Julie Robinson.

SIGMA DI GAMA

Sigma Di Gama's main event of each year is the Mardi Gras. This is where the Spanish students travel to the Middle school to teach the younger kids. They try to encourage the kids to enroll in Spanish classes for their future at R.C.H.S. This is a day to have fun while learning. Many Mexican foods were made by the members and served to the students. Also, some Mexican dances were taught. Everyone had an enjoyable time.

Megan Bailey shows off for the middle schoolers when she does the hokey pokey in Spanish.



The 1996-97 Sigma Di Gamma: (front row from left) Kathy Weinrank, Katie Blasky, Janel Bailey, Julie Walters, Cookie Bryant, Holly Shearer, Kristy Burman, Joe Zicherl; (second row) Nikki Virok, Devin Pücher, Loq Sagnier, Anne Chapman, Christopher Louck, Lauren Koebke, Lucy Gutwein, Missy Morris; and (back row) Lucy Zobel, Rachel Waling, Rena Johnson, Megan Bailey, Tina Wright, Erin McIlwain, Josh Taylor, Allen James, Kelly Vogt, Erica Saylor, Amy Peterson, Karen Darnaby, Tiffany Jordan, Beth Fish, Desiree Hopkins, and Kristina Russell.



EXPLORERS

The Explorers is a co-educational Boy Scout organization, with Judge Phillip McGraw as the sponsor. The idea of the organization was to make friendships through wholesome activities. Among them were chopping and delivering wood during the winter as a fund raiser for trips. They also sponsored two steak dinners at the American Legion hall.

The group took a number of trips, including a winter trip to go skiing for the day. In the summer, in the last week of July, they planned to travel all the way to Colorado to go white-water rafting, mountain climbing, and swimming.

In the photo to the left, Sigma Di Gamma members Kaue Blasky, Rachel W'aling, Janel Bailey, and Bree Bailey prepare for middle schoolers to partake of foreign delicacies.



Members of the Explorers play hide and seek: (from left) Rob Pfaff, Lacey Zobel, Resa Nussbaum, Micah Beaver, Danielle Frazee, Brendon Riley, and Jayce Halligan.



More Explorers beat around the bush: (from left) Brianne Fenwick, Jessica Brown, Kara Woodworth, Lyndsay Northcutt, and Erin Kingman.

Band

Band and Color Guard

(top row from left)

Kristy Smith

Athena Reff

Heather Chamness

Nick Black

Josh Taylor

Andy Earnest

Misty St. John

Rob Pfaff

Andrew Northcutt

Chris Crynes

Shawn Goud

Jesse Owsley

Ben Warren

Danielle Priett

Beth Fish

middle row

guard sponsor Beth Liming

Katie Mitchell

Lacy Gutwein

Devine Hopkins

Ed Schenk

Jeff Deardurff

Alan James

Missy Gilbert

Robin Schneidt

Brandy Putman

Nicki Howell

Trisha Huhn

Joel Leichy

Josslyn Nagel

Haney Marlin

Amanda Tow

Jamie Minix

Amanda Kerkes

Director Tom Landrum

(third row)

Darci Donnelly

Stacey Martin

Tiffany Conley

Karen Durnaby

fourth row

Jenny Nystrom

Danielle Schneidt

Laura Meyers

Any Peterson

Tiffany Jordan

Paul Florence

Kari-Jean Mitchell

Jeni Mikula

Ainber Luzadder

Kristy Kellner

Kristin Wickert

Angela Carter

Machel Floyd

Susan Wakeland

Tonya Todd

(back row)

Drum Major Chris Louck

Mark Slade

Wayne Cover

Travis Owsley

Scott Taylor

Mike Osterfeld

Jennifer Mercer

Justin Wortley

Amanda St. John

Michelle Matlocks

Ashley Wood

Drum Major Lacy Zobel

In the cold morning air, Heather Chamness tries not to drop her flag.



Color Guard

"The Pride of Rensselaer" marching band started out the fall of 1996 with a good year, winning their sectional contest, and moving on up to regionals. But the excitement of their last win was slowed as they attempted to move up. They ended up doing well, but unfortunately they did not get to state. Of course, in the 1997-98 school year, they will look even better when they get new uniforms,

which will arrive before their next season starts.

The band also participated in ISSMA contest, where many of the band students' solos and ensembles were awarded firsts.

The band once again showed their Bomber spirit in all of the home football games, by performing colorful half time shows and showing that they really, truly are "The Pride of Rensselaer."

The RCHS band has a delightful practice in the band room.



The 1996-97 RCHS jazz band: (top row from left) Director Tom Landrum, Mike Osterfeld, Justin Wortley, Jennifer Mercer, Josh Taylor; (second row) Misty St. John, Ian Querry, Jesse Owsley, Shaun Goad; (third row) Michelle Ringen, Karen Darnaby, Desi Hopkins, Alan James, Nicki Howell, Andy Earnest; and (front row) Amber Luzadder, Joel Leichty, Josslyn Nagel, Chris Louck, Amy Peterson, and Rob Pfaff.

Voices of RCHS

The Voices of RCHS during 1996-97 with two big productions, Leader of the Pack and Grease. The musicals were a big success, and after the positive reception of the opening for Leader of the Pack, Principal Day scheduled a convocation performance for the whole student body.

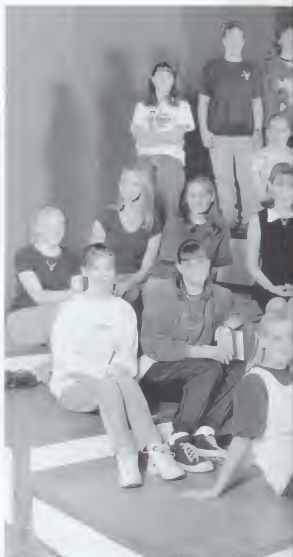
Grease was also a big success, with two sold out shows on Friday and on Saturday. Mr. Doug McKinley did a specacu-

lar job choosing the actors/actresses for both shows. Who knows, they may have an up and coming actor in the cast.

At solo and ensemble contest, the participants scored well, bringing home many awards, trophies, and medals to add to the showcase. The hopes are that incoming freshmen fill the shoes of the departing seniors. The school is excited to see what the choirs have in store next for the school.



The Concert Choir: (top row standing) Jennifer Mercer, Heather Hoffmeyer, (second row standing) Charlie Todd, (sitting) Steph Sellers, Jared Courtney, Mark Brouwer, Brett Kosonovich, Chris Spur, Amanda Stone, (sitting) Kelly Guideman, Dana Garretto, Jenny Swope, (standing) Jerney Colbreth, (third row sitting) Jennifer Wicks, Derek Goad, Sarah Stone, Mike Ostrofeld, Dennis Louchen, Tonya Todd, Mike Gross, Beth Houston, Stacy Long, Lisa McMillan, (fourth row) Tresea Williams, Amanda Robbins, Tiffany Giramonti, (fifth row sitting) Kathy Nowell (on piano) Mr. Doug McKinley, and Mrs. Susan Darnaby.





Christopher Louck, portraying Jeff Barry in *Leader of the Pack*, along with the rest of the cast gave a tremendous showing and presented an encore performance to the entire student body.

The boys in *Leader of the Pack* are showing their stuff in front of the girls during one of the several performances.



The Girls' Choir: (top row standing) Amanda St. John, Danielle Prueit, Cassie Norrington, January Marlatt, Kristina Teske, Tristian Snyder; (second row sitting) Anna Poppen, Shannon Daniels, Krissi Darnaby; (standing) Kristin Putt, Julie Dresher, April Carr, Mrs. Susan Darnaby, Mr. Doug McKinley; (third row sitting) Nicki Howell, Amber Luzader, Britanny Sweeney, Cassie Frazee, Rebecca Hansen, Megan Casey, Alisha Harper, Kim Joseph; (fourth row sitting) Kristina Sipkema, Jamie Pucka, Kristina Wright, Debbie Jennings; and (fifth row sitting) Annie Wood.

The Chamber Singers: (first row standing) Mr. Doug McKinley, Kim Nagel, Jeremy Islee, Lacy Zoble; (second row standing) Andy Earnest, Brandon Lakin, Josh Taylor, Ann Chapman, Barb Woodke, Julie Walter, Cookie Bryant, Becca Hammer, Rodney Boring, Stacie Brantner, Brad Shide; (third row sitting) Erica Saylor, Heather Chamness, Kelly Brantner, Kristin McBride, Brooke Gessa, Angie Scrippler, Lana Whitecotton, Holly Shear, Sarah Taulman, Kristy Burman, Desiree Hopkins, Adam Alson; (fourth row sitting) Kelly Vogt, Josslyn Nagel, Amy Peterson, Erik Gross, Erin McIlwain, Karen Darnaby, Brinnee Hopkins, Sheri Dinga, Kathy Wienrank, Tiffany Copley, Tiffany Jordan; and (on piano) Matt Putman, Mrs. Susan Darnaby, and Christopher Louck.



Grease

The T-Birds entertain the audience with the "Greased Lightning."



The 1997 musical Grease was a "solid" success, both memorable and enjoyable, with a sell out Friday night and record crowds Saturday and Sunday. The cast members had a lot of fun entertaining the audience.

Cast

Sandy	Kelly Vogt
Danny	Eric Gross
Rizzo	Tiffany Copley
Frenchy	Lacey Zobel
Marty	Erin Mollwain
Jan	Karen Darnaby
Kenickie	Christopher Louck
Roger	Scott Taylor
Doody	Josh Taylor
Sonny	Rodney Boring
Patty	Kathy Wienrank
Eugene	Nick Black
Ms. Lynch	Tina Wright
Cha Cha	Kim Nagel
Mr. Fontaine	Chris Spurr
Johnny C.	Bas Gutwein

Chorus: Rita Hurley, Machel Floyd, Heather Chamness, Rebecca Hamer, Brienne Hopkins, Megan Casey, Rebecca Hansen, Tristan Snyder, Erika Saylor, Desiree Hopkins, Danielle Pruitt, Josslyn Nagel, Barbara Woodke, Brooke Geesa, Jamie Pucka, Amber Luzadder, Beth Houston, Julie Walters, Mike Gross, Mark Slade, Tiffany Jordan, Amy Peterson, and Cookie Bryant.



At the top of the page, Doody played by Josh Taylor sings "Magic Changes" to the Pink Ladies and other students from Rydell High.

Just below that, Kelly Brantner concentrates on controlling the lighting during Friday's performance.



After a fight over school stud Danny Zuko (Eric Gross), Sandy (Kelly Vogt) attempts to hit Patty (Kathy Weinrank) during the Rydell school song.

The Pink Ladies and the T-Birds hang out at the Burger Palace.



Frenchy, played by Lacy Zobel, attempts to pierce Sandy's (the lead portrayed by Kelly Vogt) ear.

Eugene, personified by Nick Black, tries to ignore ChaCha (Kim Nagel) during the Rydell High prom.

"You Were Meant For Me"

The 1997 prom theme was "You were meant for me." Held at the Halleck Center at St. Joseph's College from 8:30 to 11pm, the prom provided students with a good time while they danced to tunes provided by the Zarse brothers. Couples enjoyed dancing, drinking punch, and having photos taken. The 1997 year's prom queen was Tara Baunach and tying for prom kings were Christopher Louck and David Del-Principe.

Lacy Zobel, junior class president, led the grand march.

For the first time, Rensselaer had an after prom party called "A Midnight Cruise." Held in the gym, it began immediately following the dance. When couples arrived they were greeted with free food and drinks, happy parents, and games galore. But the highlight of the night was the entertainment provided by Mr. B and his special all night karaoke singer. (Guess who?) The after prom party was a success. A good time was had by all.



To the right, couples and small groups getting romantic while dancing to a slow song.

PROM





The 1997 prom queen was Tara Baunach and the tying kings were Dave DelPrincipe and Christopher Louck (two pictures to the left).

To the lower left, the Bailey cousins, Janel and Bree, are getting the groove on.

Led by senior Rita Hurley (she is centered in the lower right photo), the revellers get down to music from oldies to country.



'97 Funfest

Wetter Than Usual

The 1996-1997 Fun Fest was an enjoyable afternoon for all RCHS students and faculty. The current school year was different than in the past, for there were a couple new events that went over very well. These events were water polo and the water fight. Everyone really enjoyed these two new features, as any observer could tell by the laughter as students got soaked.

The over-all winners of the entire Fun Fest were the victorious juniors. The seniors did not help their own cause, when they disqualified themselves for illegal use of the chemical H₂O in the water fight and for the ringer thrown in to their talent show band (an unnamed junior singer with the initials BZ.)

For the first time ever, the Eyewitness News Team from Bombervision covered the event from the #1 BTV mobile unit.



Matt Zacek plays his guitar for the illegal but entertaining senior class band Murf.

In the new water polo event, senior Dave DelPrincipe attempts to make a goal for his class in water polo, while his horse holds its breath under water.





The junior class fights to win the water gun competition.

To the right Matt Putman works on sound effects during the talent show.

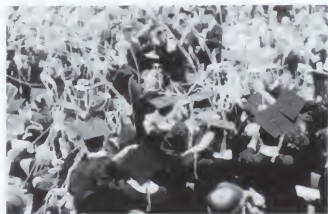
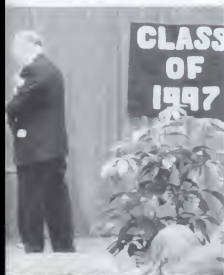
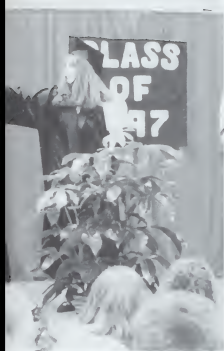
Brave junior Katie Kingman runs ahead to drench the underclassmen.



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Graduation 1997 is presented starting with the top center picture: while Rita Hurley receives her diploma from Principal David Day, Billie Huff adds to the "Hello, My Name Is ..." collection; (below) Megan Alison enters the gym; (lower right) a plethora of noisemakers and flying objects go off; (center) the Mr. Tom Landrum leads the band in the processional; (lower center) Amy Gastineau gets her sheepskin; (far left) the H's (Tony Hermanson, Shauna Henson, J.R. Harrington, Derrick Harden, Brad Hanewich, and Jenny Hammond) get ready to ascend the platform; (far left center) theme readers Scott Taylor and Lori Kohlhagen; salutatorian Erin McIlwain, Principals David Day and Charles Tait, Superintendent Mitch Ockerman, and prayer leaders Josh Sayers and Billie Huff listen while valedictorian Chris Louck (top left) delivers his address.



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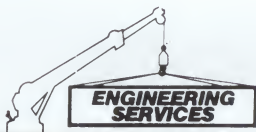
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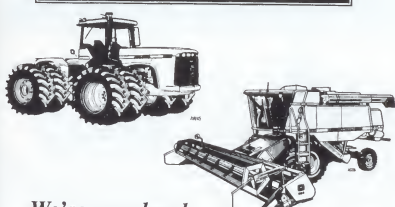
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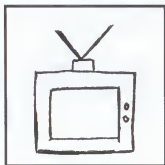
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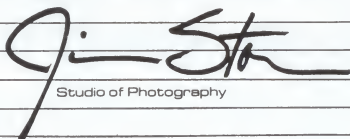
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yearZine

The Movies, TV, Music, Sports, News and Trends Zine Just For Students

I Love These People

I Love Tom Cruise

Slam Dunk

Don't Say No Me

Amazing People

1997

Movies

Top 5 at the Box Office

1. Independence Day
2. Twister
3. Mission: Impossible
4. Jerry Maguire
5. The Rock
6. The Nutty Professor
7. Ransom
8. 101 Dalmatians
9. A Time to Kill
10. Phenomenon

Star Trek

Star Trek: First Contact

101 Dalmatians

Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes play star-crossed lovers in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Independence Day

Whitney Houston meets her angel, Denzel Washington, in *The Preacher's Wife*.

The Preacher's Wife

Whitney Houston meets her angel, Denzel Washington, in *The Preacher's Wife*.

Shine

Tom Cruise makes *Mission: Impossible* a reality.

Shine

Will Smith and Harry Connick Jr. prepare for the alien attack in *Independence Day*.

Space Jam

Michael Jordan teams up with his Looney Tunes friends.

Oscar's Actresses
Brenda Blethyn, *Secrets & Lies*
Clare Keaton, *Martin's Room*
Frances McDormand, *Fargo*
Kristin Scott Thomas, *The English Patient*
Emily Watson, *Breaking the Waves*

Beavis & Butt-Head in *Genie*

Madonna's performance in *Evita* earns the actress a Golden Globe.

Evita

Nutty Professor

Ralph Macquay transforms himself in *The Nutty Professor*

Star Wars Trilogy

R2 D2 and C-3PO return to the big screen to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of *Star Wars*.

The English Patient

Ralph Fiennes soars in 1996's Best Picture, *The English Patient*.

Jerry Maguire

Cuba Gooding, Jr. says "Show me the Oscar" as he's awarded Best Supporting Actor for *Jerry Maguire*.

Oscar's Actors
Tom Cruise, Jerry Maguire
Ralph Fiennes,
The English Patient
Woody Harrelson,
The People vs. Larry Flynt
Geoffrey Rush, *Shine*
Billy Bob Thornton,
Sling Blade

Oscar winner Frances McDormand snoops from *Fargo* to Minneapolis as "Marge" in the dark comedy *Fargo*.

Lois Clavin's
Summer of '97
isn't just for
the young at heart.



Clueless

TV with a class
Boston Common
Dangerous Minds
Mr. Rhodes
Nick Freno: Licensed Teacher
Pearl
Saved by the Bell
The Steve Harvey Show



Party of Five

Fox's Party of Five cast deals with racism, suicide, mental illness and broken relationships in 1997.

- Entertainment
Week's Top TV Picks
1. NYPD Blue
 2. The X-Files
 3. The Larry Sanders Show
 4. News Radio
 5. The Simpsons
 6. Friends
 7. Murder One
 8. Profit
 9. Seinfeld
 10. Moesha



Relativity

Relativity's
Kirsten
Williams and
David Conrad
fall in love.



Friends

Rosie O'Donnell

Friends leads NBC's Thursday
night monopoly.



Rosie O'Donnell improves
talk-TV's image.



The X-Files

Dana
Tilley
and Gillian
Anderson
collaborate
on the X-Files.

Bravely
Sullivan
turns
Sudden
Susan into
a sudden
success.



Jenny McCarthy



Jenny McCarthy makes waves in the
dating pool on MTV's *Singled Out*.

John Leguizamo
brings
3rd Rock from the Sun
down to earth.

John Leguizamo brings
3rd Rock from the Sun
down to earth.

3rd Rock from the Sun



MUSIC

Single Success

1. Macarena, Los Del Rio
2. How Do U Want It, Tupac Shakur
3. Twisted, Keith Sweat
4. No Diggity, Blackstreet
5. You're Making Me High, Toni Braxton

LAST GARDENING MUSIC DUEL
ON THE SCENE OF THE ROCK CHAIR

Gallagher



Garbage's
supervillain
Shirley
Manson is
the reigning
queen of
rock.

Garbage

- ART & CRAFT
1. *Supervillain* (MTV)
2. *Main Man* (MTV)
3. *Rolling Like You*
4. *Calvin Klein*
5. *The Love Triangle*
6. *Tommy Stinson*
7. *No Control*
8. *Blackstreet*
9. *Martha Carey*



Blackstreet

Somebody
like you
shouldn't
be in the
club
You
shouldn't

Blackstreet's
hip-hop
style
is the
real
thing

Spice Girls



Garbage's
Toni Braxton
is the
queen of
the
club



The Artist

Alanis Morissette's
album is the
best of the
best

Alanis Morissette



Alanis Morissette's
album is the
best of the
best

LeAnn Rimes

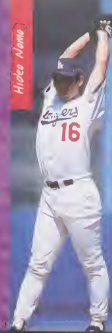


LeAnn Rimes
Oasis (<http://www.oasisnet.com/>)
Bush (<http://users.aol.com/LittleThings/Bush/index.htm>)
Smashing Pumpkins
(<http://www.muohio.edu/~carmance/sp.html>)

MTV Online



MTV Online
is the
best of the
best



Carl Lewis won the 100-meter dash at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

Women's Sport



A STAR IS BORN
The cover of Sports Illustrated Women's Sport magazine features a photo of Grant Hill.

Grant Hill won the NBA MVP award in 1994.

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Michael Jordan won the NBA MVP award in 1994.

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NASCAR Online is a computer game.

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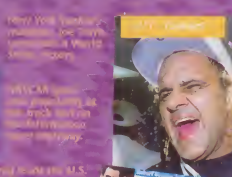
NASCAR Online is a computer game.

NASCAR Online is a computer game.

NASCAR Online is a computer game.

Sports

Olympic Boobies and Aaaahs
17 days
10,750 athletes
197 countries
31 sports
Carl Lewis, long jump
Amy Van Dyken, swimming
Tom Dolan, swimming
Karach Kliraly and Kent Steffes, volleyball
U.S. Women's Softball Team
U.S. Women's Soccer Team
U.S. Women's Basketball Team
U.S. Women's Gymnastics Team



Encore! Encore! Kerri Strug won the gold medal in the vault at the 1996 Olympics.

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News

Life on Mars.

Racial unrest in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Welfare Reform.

Madonna is a momma.

Michael Jackson King of Pop-pa!

Campaign Financing goes under scrutiny.

Elizabeth Dole

Elizabeth Dole becomes the first mom in a lackluster campaign.



Elizabeth Dole

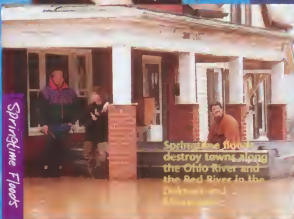
Madonna's Allnight becomes the first female Secretary of State.



Shannon Lucid

Astronaut Shannon Lucid spends more time in space than any other American.

Springtime Floods



Springtime floods destroy towns along the Ohio River and the Red River in the Midwest and Mississippi.



TWA Flight 800

TWA Flight 800, crashes in Long Island Sound, killing 230.



Bob Dole

Bob Dole's final 56-hour marathon doesn't solve his campaign.



The Cheneys

Voters defend Dick Cheney's White House bid for four years.

Civil leader declares O.J. Simpson liable for deaths of Nicole Brown and Ron Goldman.

O.J. Simpson



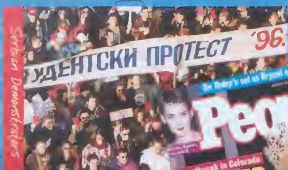
Communications Error:

The number dialed to busy or not answering. Please try again later. To find another local access number, select "New Local" from the "Services menu" pop-up menu, and click Sign On.

For more information, press the Command Key+BNF7 and refer to the Troubleshooting information in the AppleGuide.

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OK



Students demonstrate against the state government.

The Jon-Berets Ramsey murder mystery grabs headlines.



JonBenet Ramsey

Brook Shields



The sports fan loves to play tennis after Andre Agassi.

Marshall Applewhite



Leader, Marshall Applewhite, and 39 members of the Heaven's Gate cult (top) take their lives in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., in April.

Tupac Shakur



Alfonso Cuarón's Park starring Matt Damon's thriller.



A Denver jury returns a guilty verdict for Timothy McVeigh in the Oklahoma City bombing trial.

Clare



Successful sheep cloning fuels ethics debates.

Deaths

- Morfy Amsterdam, 80-ish, actor, *The Dick Van Dyke Show*
- Ted Bessell, 57, actor, *That Girl*
- Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, 68, Catholic Archbishop
- John Chancellor, 68, news anchor
- Margaux Hemingway, 41, model/actress
- Notorious B.I.G., 24, gangsta rapper
- Timothy Leary, 75, '60s activist
- Greg Morris, 61, actor, *TV's Mission: Impossible*
- Jonathan Melvoin, 34, *Smashing Pumpkins*
- Carl Sagan, 62, scientist and astronomy popularizer
- Tupac Shakur, 25, gangsta rapper/actor
- Tiny Tim, 70-ish, '60s icon
- Deng Xiaoping, 92, Chinese leader
- Allen Ginsberg, 70, Beat poet
- Ennis Cosby, 27, student, son of Bill Cosby
- Willem de Kooning, 92, abstract artist

Clash of the Titans
Gangsta rapper and movie star
Tupac Shakur is murdered.

Karl Kai

Trends

1990s
 Hair
 Music
 The Internet
 Exposed
 Summer
 Movies
 Fashion
 Technology
 Food
 Sports
 Entertainment
 Lifestyle

Fashion fads feast on bright colors.

Fashion Ad



McDonald's introduces adult-like, Arch Deluxe which meets with lukewarm consumer interest.

TV shows get a voluntary rating system.

Australia's Top dogs dance their way across American stages.

McDonald's

IT'S TRUE. WE DO MATURE FASTER THAN BOYS.



Regular.



Espresso.



Protonic Road Runner 2000

Protonic Road Runner 2000

Coffee Craze

Slogan of the year
"Show me the money!"
from Jerry Maguire

Dance craze
The Macarena

Plymouth Neon ads pick-up on the nation's coffee craze.

Make the Connection

MAKE THE CONNECTION
TEN STEPS TO A BETTER BODY—
AND A BETTER LIFE



BOB GREENE AND
OPRAH WINFREY

Coca Cola



Coca-Cola goes retro-70s.

"So...
 "too...
 "hate...
 "dirt...
 "down...
 "hoy...
 "after...
 "flav...
 "4...
 "hella...
 "house...
 "mad...
 "peeps...
 "friends...
 "people...



Op ah Winfrey makes a connection between the best body and a bestseller.



film



Rent



Amy Van Dyken's got new and promotes <http://www.whymilk.com>



Your

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